

ARMY



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THE GATLING CAMEL GUN.

WE give this week an illustration of a new method of working the Gatling Battery Gun in action. The changes which Dr. GATLING made in order to adapt the weapon to flying service resulted in lessening the weight of the weapon to 125 pounds, enabling him to mount it on a tripod weighing 36 pounds. These changes do not affect the principles on which the gun was first constructed, but consist in an improved action of the working parts. As is well known, these principles are, that the barrels, locks, and inner breech all revolve together and simultaneously, while the locks also move forward and back at each revolution. All Dr. GATLING's guns, of whatever model, have these features, and these distinguish his inventions from all other fire-arms. Improvements have, however, constantly been made in the mechanism. Friction gear has been substituted for the cog-wheels, by which the barrels were formerly revolved, the diaphragm and cascabel plate have been perforated to permit the removal of the locks without the necessity of taking the gun apart. In the "Camel Gun," which we illustrated three weeks ago, and now present under another form, these improvements have been carried still further, resulting in the production of a weapon which combines, in a remarkable manner, great efficiency, lightness, and easy transport and handling. In this form the body of the lock is made in one piece, and less than half its former length, while the lock-hammers are dispensed with, and the firing-pin is used to give the blow which explodes the charge. By this arrangement, while the locks are moved forward to load by the spiral cam, the firing-pins are acted upon by a detaining-cam to explode each charge, and these movements are carried on while the gun is kept in constant revolution. By shortening the locks the breech of the gun is also shortened, and this, with the other changes, has lessened the weight of the piece by more than half.

The constant advance of improvement, which finds its present culmination in the gun we are now describing, has produced a weapon that is more certain and uniform in its action than the guns of older models, and this light Camel gun is a model of beauty and efficiency. It has ten steel barrels, uses 42-100 calibre cartridges, and can be fired at the rate of 400 shots a minute. It weighs only 125 pounds, and therefore can easily be transported on the back of a camel or horse. Mounted on the tripod, as shown in the figure, it is so pivoted as to cover any point of the horizon at the will of the operator. Its extreme lightness enables it to be carried, in case of necessity, for short distances by men; and it can be remounted in a few seconds on its tripod, and fired with as much facility as on its ordinary carriage.

This new modification of the Gatling will certainly prove to be an invaluable arm, not only in those countries where camels are used, but mounted on horseback or mule, it will prove equally serviceable in mountainous or other regions where there are no roads. It cannot, however, be fired from horseback, though it can from camel back. In those desert parts of Asia, where the camel is the principal beast of burden, and where there are no roads, the "Camel Swivel Gun," with a bore of about 1 1/4 inch calibre, has long been used and worked from the animal's back. In such cases, the camel is made to kneel down with his legs tucked under him, and the upper arm looked to his

back; and in this position forms a steady platform for firing. The recoil of the small Gatling is so slight that the camel would scarcely feel its discharges.

For cavalry service, where celerity of motion is a necessity, it is the arm. Other uses of the weapon are the defence of bridges, breaches, employment in advanced trenches, or in field works where economy of space is a prime consideration, and use on shipboard. For naval purposes it is well adapted for use in the tops of ships, to clear the enemy's decks, in open ports, and in boat operations. Its value in covering the landing of troops, on ships operating in rivers in the neighborhood of hostile armies—as our ships had to do during the Rebellion—guarding stations, etc., is apparent. In short, in all those situations where numbers of men are likely to be brought against field or naval constructions which necessarily preclude strong garrisons, it can be of incalculable service.

General FRANKLIN has prepared a manual for the instruction of officers and soldiers using this weapon, from which we make a few extracts. He says, under the head of

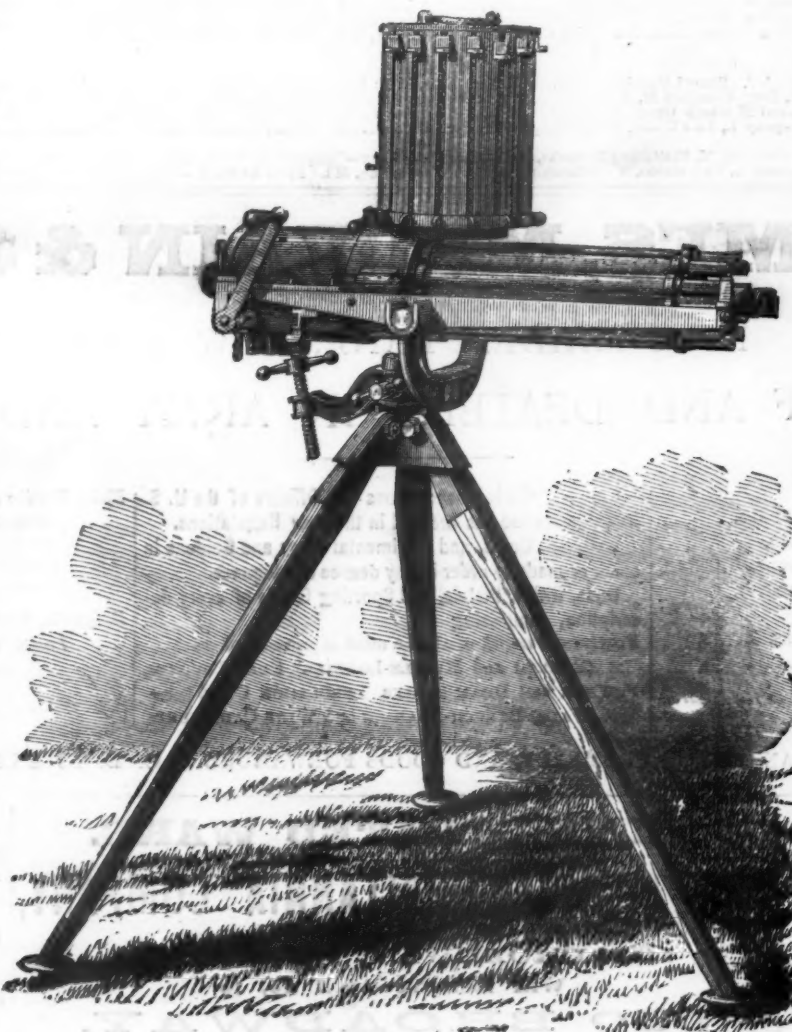
EMPLOYMENT OF THE GUN.

The best organization for the proper manipulation of the gun is doubtless that of the "Battery," in artillery tactics. Circumstances may arise which will make the use of the gun in batteries of six or eight pieces, enormously valuable; but in any event, better care can be taken of the guns, better instructions given to the men, and a better discipline and *esprit de corps* kept up by a battery organization than by distributing them singly or in pairs, to serve with infantry regiments. Before an action the batteries could be assigned to divisions or brigades, and the pieces could be used at the discretion of the commanding general in field works, trenches, to guard or drive the enemy from hollow roads, fords, bridges, and ravines, or to assist the infantry in holding exposed positions. In permanent works they have been demonstrated to be of great use in flank defences. The extreme accuracy and rapidity of their fire render the ditches or glacis of such a work untenable by the attacking force, and the complete shelter of the men gives them a coolness in using the arm unattainable with any other weapon.

On account of the rapidity of the fire of Gatling guns, it is extremely important they should be

handled by cool men, and when cover can be had advantage must be taken of it. At sea, the small-sized guns can be used in the tops of ships, and would soon clear the decks of an enemy's ship at close quarters. A good position for the guns of all sizes would be on top of a Monitor's turret. In boat expeditions, they would be efficient in destroying opposition to landing on a beach, and in the ascent of rivers they would be of use in driving off sharpshooters and small bodies of men posted along the banks. If the boat's crew are to land, light Gatling guns can be landed with them, and can be dragged by the men. They would be as efficient in such warfare as they are known to be when they accompany infantry. At least 10,000 cartridges should be carried with each gun. Musket cartridges weigh about 110 lbs. to the thousand.

When "Camel guns" are used, the ammunition must be carried by pack-animals. Three or four pack-horses would be necessary, in addition to the horse or mule which carries the gun, to carry 10,000 rounds of musket ammunition. When camels are used, two besides the gun-camel could carry 10,000 cartridges.



STATIONS OF THE REGIMENTS OF THE U. S. ARMY, BY COMPANIES.

(APRIL, 1872.)

Regt. No.	Headquarters.	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K
1st	Willett's Pt, NYH	Willett's Pt, NYH	Willett's Pt, NYH	Willett's Pt, NYH	Willett's Pt, NYH	West Point, N Y					
2d	Benicia B'ks, Cal	Cp McDowell, A T	Ft Klamath, Or	Camp McDermitt, Nev	Ft Lapwai, I T	Fort Lapwai, I T	Camp Warner, Or	Camp Bidwell, Cal	Camp Harney, Or	Cp McDowell, A T	Cmp Halleck, Nev
3d	Omaha, Neb	Ft Frd Steele, WT	Stambaugh, WT	Sidney, Neb	Cmp Douglas, UT	Fort Laramie, WT	Fort Ellis, M T	Fort Ellis, M T	Fort Ellis, M T	Ft Sanders, W T	North Platte, Neb
4th	Fort Richardson, Ts	Ft Richardson, Ts	Ft Richardson, Ts	Ft Richardson, Ts	Ft Griffin, Tex	Fort Richardson, Ts	Fort Richardson, Ts	Fort Concho, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Ft Richardson, T
5th	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp Bowie, A. T.	Cp Date Creek, AT	Tucson, A. T.	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp Grant, A. T.	Cp Hualapai, AT
6th	Fort Riley, Kas	Fort Riley, Kas	Fort Riley, Kas	Fort Riley, Kas	Ft Wallace, Kas	Fort Scott, Kas	Fort Hays, Kas	Fort Dodge, Kas	Fort Dodge, Kas	Oxford, Miss	Saltillo, Miss
7th	Louisville, Ky	Elizabeth's, N M	Spartanburg, S C	Lincolnton, N C	Opelika, Ala	Unionville, S C	Meridian, Miss	Fort Dodge, Kas	Nashville, Tenn	Shelbyville, Ky	Yorkville, S C
8th	Fort Union, N M	Fort Bayard, N M	Ft Union, N M	Ft Selden, N M	Fort Stanton, N M	Ft Wingate, N M	Ft Garland, C T	Ft Selden, N M	Ft Union, N M	Ft Bayard, N M	Ft Wingate, N M
9th	Ft Clark, Tex	Ft Stockton, Tex	Ft Griffin, Tex	Ft Concho, Tex	Fort Stockton, Tex	Fort Sill, I T	Ft McKavett, Tex	Ft Griffin, Tex	Fort Davis, Tex	Fort Davis, Tex	Ft Sill, I T
10th	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Camp Supply, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Camp Supply, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T
11th	Fort Hamilton, N Y	Ft Ontario, N Y	Ft Ontario, N Y	Fort Hamilton, N Y	Fort Hamilton, N Y	Fort Wood, NYH	Madison Bks, NY	Ft Monroe, Va	Fort Hamilton, N Y	Fort Wood, NYH	Fort Hamilton, N Y
12th	Presidio, S Fr, Cal	Presidio, Cal	Alcatraz Isl, Cal	Sitka, Alaska	Point San Jose	Ft Cape Disappointment, W T	Presidio, Cal	Presidio, Cal	Presidio, Cal	Sitka, Alaska	Ft Monroe, Va
13th	Charleston, S C	Fort Monroe, Va	Key West, Fla	Charleston, S C	Key West, Fla	Ft Pulaski, Ga	Ft Jefferson, Fla	Ft Barrancas, Fla	Ft Pulaski, Ga	Spartanburg, S C	Savannah, Ga
14th	Fort Adams, R I	Fort Adams, R I	Fort Adams, R I	Rutherford, N C	Raleigh, N C	Ft McKavett, Md	Ft Johnston, N C	Plattsburg B'ks, N Y	Fort Trumbull, Conn	Ft Monroe, Va	Ft Macon, N C
15th	Ft Wayne, Mich	Fort Brady, Mich	Madison B'ks, NY	Ft Porter, N Y	Ft Porter, N Y	Ft Mackinac, Mich	Ft Mackinac, Mich	Ft Porter, N Y	Ft Gratiot, Mich	Ft Wayne, Mich	Ft Brady, Mich
16th	Mobile, Ala	Fort Larned, Kas	Fort Larned, Kas	Fort Larned, Kas	Fort Larned, Kas	Fort Lyon, C T	Fort Lyon, C T	Fort Lyon, C T	Fort Lyon, C T	Fort Lyon, C T	Fort Lyon, C T
17th	Frankfort, Ky	Lexington, Ky	Crab Orchard, Ky	Lancaster, Ky	Paducah, Ky	Mt Sterling, Ky	Elizabeth's, N M	Frankfort, Ky	Louisville, Ky	Lebanon, Ky	Frankfort, Ky
18th	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Fort Scott, Kas	Fort Scott, Kas	Fort Harker, Kas	Fort Harker, Kas	Fort Harker, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas
19th	Fort Hays, Kas	Fort Hays, Kas	Camp Supply, I T	Camp Supply, I T	Fort Larned, Kas	Fort Dodge, Kas	Fort Dodge, Kas	Camp Supply, I T	Camp Supply, I T	Fort Hays, Kas	Camp Supply, I T
20th	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Chicago, Ill	Fort Benton, M T	Fort Benton, M T	Camp Baker, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T
21st	David's Isl, NYH	David's Isl, NYH	David's Isl, NYH	David's Isl, NYH	Chicago, Ill	Chicago, Ill	Chicago, Ill	David's Isl, NYH	David's Isl, NYH	Chicago, Ill	David's Isl, NYH
22nd	Ft DAR Russell, WT	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Ft DAR Russell, WT	Ft DAR Russell, WT	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb
23rd	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex	Fort Brown, Tex
24th	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex
25th	Angel Island, Cal	Camp Wright, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal	Fort Hall, I T	Fort Yuma, Cal	Camp Gaston, Cal	Beale's Springs, A T	Camp Mojave, AT	Angel Island, Cal	Camp Halleck, Nev	Camp Gaston, Cal
26th	Ft Frd Steele, WT	Camp Brown, WT	Cmp Douglas, UT	Cmp Douglas, UT	Cp Douglas, UT	Cmp Douglas, UT	Cp Douglas, UT	Ft Bridger, W T	Cp Douglas, WT	Cmp Douglas, UT	C Stambaugh, WT
27th	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Petterson, WT	Ft Petterson, WT	Ft Petterson, WT	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Sidney Bks, Neb
28th	Santa Fe, N M	Ft Wingate, N M	Fort McRae, N M	Fort Union, N M	Fort Union, N M	Fort Union, N M	Fort Union, N M	Fort Craig, N M	Fort Stanton, N M	Fort Stanton, N M	Fort Craig, N M
29th	Nashville, Tenn	Louisville, Ky	Jackson, Miss	Aberdeen, Miss	Humboldt Tenn	Louisville, Ky	Nashville, Tenn	Nashville, Tenn	Jackson, Miss	Meridian, Miss	St Augustine, Fla
30th	Fort Rice, D T	G'd River Agency, D T	Cheyenne Agency, D T	Cheyenne Agency, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Stevenson, D T	G'd River Agency, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Stevenson, D T	Fort Rice, D T
31st	Columbia, S C	Atlanta, Ga	Columbia, S C	Yorkville, S C	Columbia, S C	Atlanta, Ga	Sumter, S C	Columbia, S C	Chester, S C	Columbia, S C	Newberry, N C
32nd	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La	Jackson B'ks, La	Jackson B'ks, La	Holly Springs, Miss	Jackson B'ks, La	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La
33rd	Ft Snelling, Minn	Ft Totten, D T	Ft Wadsworth, D T	Ft Ransom, D T	Ft Abercrombie, D T	Ft Snelling, Minn	Fort Wadsworth, D T	Ft Ripley, Minn	Fort Totten, D T	Ft Pembina, D T	Fort Pembina, D T
34th	Presidio, S Fr, Cal	Camp Lowell, AT	Camp Apache, AT	Ft Whipple, A T	Camp Lowell, A T	Cp Crittenden, AT	Camp Grant, A T	Camp Bowie, A T	Cp Date Creek, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp Crittenden, AT
35th	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Randall, D T	Fort Randall, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Randall, D T	Fort Randall, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Randall, D T
36th	Ft Vancouver, WT	Fort Boise, IT	Camp Warner, Or	Ft Vancouver, WT	Ft Vancouver, WT	Fort Lapwai, IT	Cp San Juan Isl'd	Fort Colville, WT	Ft Vancouver, WT	Camp Harney, Or	Fort Klamath, Or
37th	Ft McKavett, Tex	Ft McKavett, Tex	Ft Quitman, Tex	Ft McKavett, Tex	Ft McKavett, Tex	Ft McKavett, Tex	Fort Davis, Tex	Fort Stockton, Tex	Ft McKavett, Tex	Ft McKavett, Tex	Fort Duncan, Tex
38th	Fort Davis, Tex	Fort Clark, Tex	Fort Bliss, Tex	Fort Clark, Tex	Fort Clark, Tex	Fort Clark, Tex	Fort Duncan, Tex	Fort Davis, Tex	Fort Clark, Tex	Fort Duncan, Tex	Fort Stockton, Tex

First Cavalry—Companies L and M, Camp Apache, A T. Second Cavalry—Company L, Fort Ellis, M T; Company M, Omaha, Neb. Third Cavalry—Company L en route; company M, Fort McPherson, Neb. Fourth Cavalry—Company L, Fort Richardson, Tex; Company M, San Antonio, Tex. Fifth Cavalry—Temporary Headquarters, Camp McDowell, A. T., and after assignment of companies—not later than April—at Camp Hualapai, A. T.; Companies L and M, Camp Grant, A T. Sixth Cavalry—Company L, Fort Riley, Kas; Company M, Fort Lyon, C T. Seventh Cavalry—Company L, Yorkville, S C; Company M, Spartanburg, S C. Eighth Cavalry—Company L, Fort Union, N M; Company M, Fort Union, N M. Ninth Cavalry—Company L, Fort Duncan, Tex; Company M, Fort McKavett, Tex. Tenth Cavalry—Companies L and M, Fort Sill, I T.

First Artillery—Company L, Fort Niagara, N Y; Company M, Plattsburg Barracks, N Y. Second Artillery—Company L, Alcatraz Island, Cal; Company M, Fort Stevens, Or. Third Artillery—Companies L and M, Fort Jefferson, Fla. Fourth Artillery—Company L, Fort Macon, N C; Company M, Fort Washington, Md. Fifth Artillery—Company L, Fort Adams, R I; Company M, Fort Preble, Me.

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THE ARMY.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S
OFFICE, WASHINGTON, March 25, 1872.

General Orders No. 12.

THE following act of Congress is published for the information and government of all concerned:

An act to authorize the sale of public property at Houlton, Maine.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to sell and convey the land and building belonging to the United States at Houlton, Maine, known as Hancock barracks, if, in his opinion, it shall be for the interest of the Government to sell the same, reserving to the county of Aroostook so much of said land as shall be necessary for the monuments thereon erected, by the consent of the War Department, to establish a meridian line, which land shall be granted to said county: *Provided*, That the land so granted shall not exceed in value the sum of five hundred dollars.

Approved March 14, 1872.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, March 30, 1872.

General Orders No. 13.

Horse equipments will not hereafter be reported in complete sets, but the complete parts composing the set will be reported separately.

The monthly statements of serviceable stores on hand, the quarterly returns at arsenals, depots, posts, and in the field, and the annual inventories, will designate each part.

A set complete will consist of the following parts, viz:

One saddle (which includes two stirrups, two stirrup-straps, six coat-straps, one carbine socket and strap, and one girth).

One curb-bridle.

One halter.

One pair of saddle-bags.

One surcingle.

The following articles, not being embraced in the foregoing list, will not be considered as called for when requisition is made for complete sets of horse equipments. It will, therefore, be necessary to make special mention of them in the requisitions when desired. They will also be taken up and accounted for under separate headings on the property returns, viz:

Saddle-blankets, watering-bridles, sweat-leathers, cruppers, hitching-straps and snaps, nose-bags, lariats, side-lines or hobbles, picket-pins, horse-brushes, and curry-combs.

When requisitions call for complete sets, the parts composing a set, as fixed by this order, will be issued, and the invoice will state the number of sets, consisting of — (here enumerate the number of complete parts of each kind).

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, April 1, 1872.

General Orders No. 14.

It having come to the notice of the Secretary of War that officers arriving at the seat of Government often fail to observe the regulation requiring them to record at the office of the Adjutant-General their names, their residences in the city, and the orders under which they are absent from their stations, it is hereby announced that such failure, unless satisfactorily explained, will in future be followed by orders forthwith to return to their post.

By order of the Secretary of War,

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending April 1, 1872.

Tuesday, March 26.

PRIVATE Silas H. Williams, company G, Fifth Infantry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Sergeant Thomas Barrett, company B, Second Cavalry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Sergeant William Israel, battery D, Fifth Artillery, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Wednesday, March 27.

On the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, Superintendent Patrick Hart, of the National Cemetery at Richmond, Virginia, is hereby transferred to the Battle Ground National Cemetery, District of Columbia, and will join his new station as soon as relieved by his

successor. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Superintendent William Wright is hereby transferred from the National Cemetery at Fort Harrison, to that at Richmond, Virginia, and will proceed to his proper station without delay. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation, and will employ a suitable person to take charge of the Fort Harrison Cemetery until a superintendent is appointed.

On the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, Superintendent Wesley Markwood, of the National Cemetery at Little Rock, Arkansas, is hereby discharged the service of the United States. The Quartermaster's Department will employ a suitable person to take charge of the cemetery temporarily.

The Superintendent General Recruiting Service will prepare and forward, under proper charge, from Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, one hundred recruits to San Francisco, California, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Military Division of the Pacific for assignment to the Twenty-third Infantry. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

The Superintendent General Recruiting Service will prepare and forward, under proper charge, all disposable colored recruits at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, to Galveston, Texas, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Department of Texas for assignment to the Twenty-fifth Infantry. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Thursday, March 28.

The superintendent General Recruiting Service will cause to be prepared and forwarded, under proper charge, from Newport Barracks, Kentucky, thirty recruits to Fort Pulaski, Georgia, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding officer of that post for assignment to Batteries E and H, Third Artillery. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

The resignation of First Lieutenant Eugene P. Murphy, Second Artillery, has been accepted by the President, to take effect April 1, 1872.

To correct his record, so much of Special Orders No. 54, March 4, 1872, from this office, as discharged Captain Lewis Johnson, Tenth Indiana Volunteers, to date August 31, 1864, is hereby amended to read: September 15, 1864.

On the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, the following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Quartermaster's Department are hereby made: Lieutenant-Colonel Charles H. Tompkins, deputy quartermaster-general, will report to the commanding general Department of Dakota to relieve Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel B. Holabird, deputy quartermaster-general, as chief quartermaster of that department. Upon being relieved by Lieutenant-Colonel Tompkins, Lieutenant-Colonel Holabird will report to the commanding general Department of Texas to relieve Lieutenant-Colonel James A. Ekin, deputy quartermaster-general, as chief quartermaster of that department. Upon being relieved from duty in the Department of Texas, Lieutenant-Colonel Ekin will proceed to Jeffersonville, Indiana, and take charge of the quartermaster's depot at that place, relieving Captain Charles H. Hoyt, who upon being relieved, will report to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to duty at Fort McPherson, Nebraska. Captain Edward D. Baker will report to the commanding general Department of the Platte, for assignment to duty as depot quartermaster at Ogden, Utah Territory, relieving Captain William B. Hughes, who, upon being relieved, will report to the commanding officer Department of the Gulf for duty as depot quartermaster at New Orleans. Captain Edward B. Grimes will report to the commanding general Department of the Missouri for assignment to duty as depot quartermaster at St. Louis, relieving Captain Geo. H. Weeks. Upon being relieved by Captain Grimes, Captain Weeks will report to the commanding general Department of the Lakes for duty at Buffalo, N. Y., to relieve Major Alexander Montgomery. Upon being relieved by Captain Weeks, Major Montgomery will report to the commanding general Department of the East to relieve Major John G. Chandler of his duties in that department. Upon being relieved from duty in the Department of the East, Major Chandler will report to the commanding general Department of the Missouri, to relieve Major James M. Moore, as depot quartermaster at Fort Leavenworth. Upon being relieved by Major Chandler, Major Moore will report to the commanding officer Department of Arizona for duty at Yuma depot, relieving Captain James G. C. Lee, who, upon being relieved, will report in person to the Quartermaster-General for orders. Major Rufus Saxton, after having completed his business in this city, under Special Orders No. 308, August 10, 1871, from this office, will return to his station and resume his duties as chief quartermaster Department of the Columbia.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Hospital Steward Leopold De Rudder, U. S. Army, now at Fort Colville, Washington Territory, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the post where he may be serving.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Assistant Surgeon F. Le Baron Monroe is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of the Platte, and will proceed to Boston, Massachusetts, reporting by letter upon his arrival there to the Surgeon-General.

Friday, March 29.

Sergeant John C. Bartell, Company C, Eleventh Infantry, having completed the duty assigned him by Special

Orders No. 64, March 27, 1872, from headquarters principal depot General Recruiting Service, Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, will return with his guard to his station at Fort Columbus without unnecessary delay. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation and the Subsistence Department commutation of rations at the usual rates for Sergeant Bartell and one man.

Saturday, March 30.

Privates George Taylor, Thomas Treehouse, Wales Emmons, and John F. M. Smith, General Service U. S. Army, Newport Barracks, Kentucky, now with their command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where they may be serving.

Recruit John G. Brown, General Service U. S. Army, now supposed to be at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Private Frank B. Stebbins, Company I, Second Infantry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Sergeant Delzene Marean, General Service U. S. Army, now with Signal Service Detachment, U. S. Army, at Fort Whipple, Virginia, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Monday, April 1.

Sergeant Theodore Moser, Company I, and Private Jeffrey Carney, Company F, Third Infantry, having completed the duty assigned them in Special Orders No. 21, March 26, 1872, from headquarters Fort Lyon, Colorado Territory, will return to their post at Fort Lyon, with permission to delay six days en route. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation, and the Subsistence Department commutation of rations at the usual rates.

First Lieutenant J. B. Hanson, Tenth Infantry, will report in person without delay to the superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service, St. Louis Depot, Missouri, to conduct a detachment of recruits to the Department of Texas. On completion of this duty Lieutenant Hanson will join his proper station.

Captain S. B. M. Young, Eighth Cavalry, recruiting officer, Chicago, Illinois, is hereby appointed to act as inspector on certain unserviceable recruiting property on hand at the rendezvous of First Lieutenant George J. Madden, Eighteenth Infantry, at Chicago, and for which Lieutenant Madden is responsible.

The leave of absence granted Assistant Surgeon John V. Lauderdale in Special Orders No. 46, February 24, 1872, from this office, is hereby extended sixty days.

Leave of absence for sixty days is hereby granted Assistant Surgeon Samuel A. Storrow.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant Charles M. Rockefeller, Ninth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 6, January 10, 1872, from headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended sixty days.

The extension of leave of absence granted First Lieutenant William Ennis, Fourth Artillery, in Special Orders No. 24, January 29, 1872, from this office, is hereby further extended thirty days.

On the mutual application of the officers concerned, approved by the regimental commander, the following transfers in the Third Cavalry are hereby announced: First Lieutenant George A. Drew, from Company K to Company L; First Lieutenant Oscar Elting, from Company L to Company K. Lieutenant Drew will join his proper station, at his own expense, without delay.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish Private John Harvey, Company H, Nineteenth Infantry, with transportation from this city to New Orleans, Louisiana, the station of his command. Commutation of subsistence at the usual rates will be furnished while en route.

Private John B. Buchele, band of Seventh Cavalry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Company A, Third Infantry, from Fort Wallace, Kas., to Fort Larned, Kas., March 22.
Company C, Third Infantry, from Fort Larned, Kas., to Fort Wallace, Kas., March 22.
Company D, Fourth Infantry, from Paducah, Ky., to Frankfort, Ky., March 25.
Company G, Fourth Infantry, from Frankfort, Ky., to Paducah, Ky., March 25.
Company A, Sixth Infantry, from Fort Hays, Kas., to Fort Larned, Kas., March 22.
Company E, Sixth Infantry, from Fort Larned, Kas., to Fort Hays, Kas., March 22.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

General Slocum has introduced in the House of Representatives a bill to authorize the promotion of General Nelson H. Davis, of the Inspector General's Department, to the rank he would have held had he been promoted in 1864 in accordance with the rule of seniority.

A Herald correspondent in Cairo telegraphs that General Sherman was splendidly entertained by His Highness the Khedive of Egypt. A state breakfast was given in honor of the American commander, and he was present at several reviews of the army, a special train on the railroad being placed at his service during his trips.

General Sherman declined the honor of a lodgment in the palace during his stay. The General was to leave Egypt on Tuesday, the 2d of April, for Constantinople, in which city he will be the guest of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan of Turkey.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Colonel W. H. Emory: Headquarters, New Orleans, La.

General Emory has sent to the War Department a letter from Lieutenant and Aid-de-camp King, dated New Orleans, March 6, 1872, saying that great lawlessness exists throughout the entire State of Mississippi, but it cannot all be ascribed to Ku-Klux organizations. The trial of several prominent members of the gang and the arrest of a large party from the vicinity of Corinth, and their confinement in the post guard-house at Holly Springs, has done much towards their general disbandment. Nevertheless there is a bitter and resentful spirit in every portion of the State against the government.

General Emory, in a letter dated March 8, says:—"Last month I went to Jackson to see Governor Powers, who had sent me various communications asking for troops. I am satisfied from that visit his requisitions are well founded, and there is necessity for more cavalry in that State; and always acting on the principle, in the use of troops in civil affairs, that prevention is better than intervention, I respectfully request that I may be furnished one more company of cavalry, to be posted in Mississippi. As a temporary expedient I have sent a company of infantry to Neshoba county and withdrawn one of the two companies of cavalry in the Northern district of Mississippi to post in the Southern district, where it is needed and strongly recommended by the United States Marshal. To avoid all legal complications about the use of troops in making arrests and preserving order, I have arranged with the Governor of Mississippi and the United States Marshal of that district (between whom and the Governor there is the best understanding) that all requisitions shall be made by the United States civil officers, and I feel confident that I shall be able, by a timely use of troops, to maintain order in that State without bringing the troops into collision with the citizens."

Sixteenth Infantry.—Second Lieutenant T. W. Morrison, March 27 was relieved from duty with Company I, stationed at Jackson, Mississippi, and ordered to his proper company (F) at Nashville, Tennessee.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan: Chicago, Ill.

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

Major-General Hancock announces that as the Black Hills region is an Indian reservation, he shall prevent by the use of troops, if necessary, any prospecting parties entering. He adds that no gold has been found there.

Leave of absence for thirty days, March 24, was granted Chaplain Hiram Stone, U. S. Army, with permission to apply to headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of thirty days.

Twentieth Infantry.—Captain H. G. Thomas was at St. Paul, Minn., March 21, en route, returning (in good time), to his proper station, Fort Ransom, D. T., from leave of absence, and it being impracticable for him to proceed to that post at that time on account of communication therewith being cut off by heavy snows, he was ordered to Fort Snelling to report to the commanding officer for temporary duty, until he could resume his journey to his station.

On the arrival of Captain H. G. Thomas, at Fort Ransom, D. T., (returning from leave of absence), Second Lieutenant John Bannister, will be relieved from temporary duty at that post, and ordered to his proper company and station at Fort Pembina, D. T.

Fort Columbia, D. T.—Brev. Lieut.-Col. L. Wheaton, U. S. A., Captain 20th Infantry Commanding.—From this post a correspondent writes, March 15th: The winter has not been monotonous. Although far away from civilization, a dramatic club was organized at this post by the enlisted men, under the able management of First Sergeant C. J. Brown and Sergeant Carl. The most approved plays were performed with great display of histrionic talent, and with decided success, the house being crowded to its utmost at every succeeding performance. Nothing was better calculated than these performances for the amusement of the people of this part of the country, most of whom have never seen anything of the kind before. Edwin Spicer, a private of Company I, stationed at this post, has initiated a movement toward the organization of a Lodge of Good Templars. Many thanks are due to the commanding officer, and other officers of this post, who have contributed largely toward the organization of this Lodge, by furnishing rooms and furniture necessary to the meeting of the members. The Lodge numbers at present forty members, and every day new members are admitted. Very near half of the enlisted men at this post belong to it. We count among the members men who could not keep sober while they had one cent, and consequently could not keep out of the guard-house, and since they have become members of the Good Templars they are model soldiers for the rest. I hope that this movement at this post will be the means of organizing temperance societies throughout all the army. It would tend more to the good behavior of the enlisted men than any reformation they could introduce. This post is situated on the frontier between Manitoba and Dakota Territory, and on the banks of the Red River. The climate is very healthy, and game abounds during the summer months. Geese, ducks, prairie chickens and pigeons are the most plentiful, and it is a daily occurrence for two men to go out for a day's hunting, and bring in from 50 to 150 birds.

Two companies are stationed here, Companies I and K, of the Twentieth regiment of Infantry. The post is

commanded by Capt. L. Wheaton, Twentieth Infantry.

The other officers doing duty at this post are as follows: Ezra Woodruff, assistant surgeon, U. S. A.; Captain A. A. Harback, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant Ohas. O. Bradley, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant Paul Howard, A. A. General and A. C. S.

One man died this winter, being frozen to death on the prairie about four or five miles from the post. The winter has been very severe, and snow has drifted around us to the height of ten feet at some places. The stages have been running very regularly this winter, except in a few instances, when they have been a couple of days behind time.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

Upon being relieved of his duties at Sioux city, Iowa, by Captain C. W. Foster, assistant quartermaster, U. S. A., as directed by p. 2, S. O. No. 21, C. S., headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Captain J. W. Scully, assistant quartermaster, U. S. A., will proceed without delay to Fort Rice, D. T., and report to the commanding officer for duty as post quartermaster.

Fort Dodge, Kansas.—Assistant Surgeon W. S. Tremaine, U. S. Army, March 25, was relieved from duty at Fort Dodge, Kansas, and ordered to Fort Larned, Kansas, reporting upon arrival to the commanding officer of the latter post for duty, and relieving Assistant Surgeon J. W. Brewer, U. S. Army, who upon being thus relieved, will proceed to Fort Dodge, Kansas, and report to the commanding officer for duty.

Seventh Cavalry.—The verbal instructions from this office of the 21st ult., which directed First Lieutenant C. S. Halsey, Seventh Cavalry, aide-de-camp to proceed to Quincy, Illinois, and return, on business connected with these headquarters are confirmed.

Fifth Infantry.—Major George Gibson, March 25, was relieved from duty as member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, S. O. No. 41, c. s. from these headquarters, and ordered to report in person, to the commanding general of the department.

Cavalry Depot, St. Louis, Mo.—A General Court-martial met at the Cavalry Depot St. Louis, Missouri, on the 1st day of April. Detail for the court: Colonel Edward Hatch, Ninth Cavalry; Major D. L. Magruder, surgeon U. S. Army; Captain George H. Weeks, A. Q., U. S. Army; First Lieutenants T. J. Wint, Fourth Cavalry, J. N. Wheelan, Second Cavalry, C. E. Nesmith, Sixth Cavalry, C. P. Rodgers, Fifth Cavalry. First Lieutenant P. D. Vroom, Third Cavalry, judge-advocate.

Major David Taylor, paymaster U. S. Army, March 23, was granted leave of absence for twenty-five days, to take effect immediately after he shall have rendered his accounts to March 31, 1872, and turned over to the chief or other paymaster of the department, all public funds for which he is responsible, as required by paragraph 3, Circular No. 79, series of 1871, from the Paymaster-General's Office.

Sixth Infantry.—Company A, Sixth Infantry, on March 24 was ordered from Fort Hays to Fort Larned, Kansas. In order to enable him to see field service with his regiment, during the season for field operations, Second Lieutenant Vinton A. Goddard, March 27, was relieved from duty as signal officer of the department, and ordered to rejoin his company at Fort Riley, Kansas. The public property in his charge belonging to the Signal Department will be turned over to First Lieutenant E. H. Ruffner, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, chief engineer of the department. Leave of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, was granted Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel Huston, Jr., Sixth Infantry, March 28. Paragraph 6, S. O. No. 48, C. S. Department headquarters, is amended to read that all public property for which Second Lieutenant V. A. Goddard, late acting signal officer of the department, is responsible, will be turned over temporarily to Captain C. S. Halsey, Seventh Cavalry, aide-de-camp.

Fort Union, N. M.—The telegraphic instructions from this office of 23d ult., directing the commanding officer Fort Union, N. M., to send two commissioned officers and as many non-commissioned officers and privates as he may deem necessary, with the requisite transportation, to meet a detachment of recruits for the Eighth Cavalry, en route to Fort Union, N. M., was confirmed March 28.

Seventeenth Infantry.—Sergeant Robert Reynolds, Company E, Twenty-second Infantry, was ordered, March 27, to proceed to Mount Sterling, Choctaw county, Alabama, for the purpose of serving a subpoena upon, and conducting thence to Fort Sully, D. T., one Pleasant Rodgers, (colored), an important witness for the prosecution in the case of the United States v. Captain L. H. Sanger Seventeenth Infantry, on trial before a General Court-martial, to reconvene at that post on the first day of May next.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Headquarters, Omaha, Nebraska.

Second Cavalry. Colonel Innes N. Palmer.—We continue Colonel Brackett's history of this regiment, with the portion relating to the period since the war:

When the Army was increased July 28, 1866, Major Frank Wheaton was promoted to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the Thirty-ninth Infantry, Captain Nelson B. Sweitzer, of the First Cavalry, being promoted in his place. Sweitzer was born in Pennsylvania, graduated at West Point, and had served on the Pacific coast, and during the Rebellion was colonel of the Sixteenth New York Cavalry. Captain Wesley Merritt was made lieutenant-colonel of the Ninth Cavalry, and Captain Rodenbough major of the Forty-second Infantry.

Major John W. Davidson was made lieutenant-colonel of the Tenth Cavalry, and Captain George W. Howland, Third Cavalry, was promoted in his place.

Second Lieutenant Horatio S. Bingham, of the Second Cavalry, was killed by Indians near Fort Phil. Kearny, W. T., December 6, 1866, and on the 21st, near the same place, Sergeant James Baker and twenty-six men of Company C, of the Second, were killed by the Sioux Indians in the Fort Phil. Kearny massacre.

July 1, 1867, Second Lieutenant Lyman S. Kidder, and ten enlisted men while on Beaver Creek, not far from Fort Wallace, Kas., carrying dispatches from Fort Sedgewick to the troops in the field, were attacked and killed after a stout resistance.

January 1, 1868, Major Alfred Pleasanton resigned, Captain

James S. Brisban, of the Ninth Infantry, was promoted in his place. Captain Brisban was born in Pennsylvania, had rendered good service during the Rebellion, in which he was wounded, and had served as a colonel of volunteer cavalry.

Colonel Thomas J. Wood retired on account of wounds June 9, 1869. Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer was promoted in his place. Major Albert G. Brackett was promoted in Palmer's place. He was born in New York, served in the Mexican war, in the Indiana Volunteers, was appointed captain in the Second (Fifth) Cavalry in March, 1855, and served against the Indians in Texas; was at Blackburn's Ford and Bull Run; was colonel of the Ninth Illinois Cavalry, and wounded in Arkansas; was in the Atlanta campaign, and at Nashville, and on the Pacific coast, having taken the First Cavalry to California.

April 8, 1869, Major George W. Howland retired from active service. Captain Eugene M. Baker, of the First Cavalry, was promoted in his place. Captain Baker was born in New York, graduated at West Point, and had served with credit in the Rebellion and on the Pacific coast.

In May and June, 1869, Companies F, G, H, and I were sent to Montana Territory under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Brackett. October 27 three enlisted men belonging to Company K, who were out hunting, were attacked in the night by a party of Indians near Lapre Creek, Wyoming Territory. Privates George McKenna and John McAllister were killed, and Private Conrad Wentworth, an excellent woodsman, made his escape.

Companies F, G, H, and I, Second Cavalry, under command of Major Eugene M. Baker, attacked a band of hostile Blackfoot Indians near Maria's river, Montana, January 23, 1870. One hundred and seventy-three were killed and a large number of women and children taken prisoners. This wholesome chastisement had a good effect upon the northern Indians, who have since that time maintained peaceful relations with the whites. Private Walter McKay, of Company I, was killed.

May 4, 1870, Captain David S. Gordon, with his company, D, had a spirited fight with hostile Indians near Atlantic City, Wyoming Territory, in which several Indians were killed. First Lieutenant Charles B. Stambaugh, of the Second Cavalry, was killed, and Sergeant Brown seriously wounded.

Sergeant Patrick Leonard and four men of Company C, Second Cavalry, were suddenly surrounded and fired upon by a large party of Indians on the Little Blue river in Nebraska, May 15, 1870. The Sergeant shot his horses, formed a breastwork of them, and beat off the Indians. He succeeded in getting off, taking with him to the lower settlements the wives and children of the frontier settlers. For this action each man received a medal of honor from the Hon. Secretary of War. Their names were Sergeant Patrick Leonard, Privates George W. Thompson, Heth Canfield, Thomas Hubbard (wounded), and Michael Himmelbach.

On the night of June 14, 1870, a large band of Indians crossed the Union Pacific Railroad five miles from Ogallala. Captain Elijah R. Wells, with his company, followed them and captured all of their tents, provisions, etc.

January 1, 1872, finds the regiment in good condition for service. The field officers have already been noticed. The captains are David S. Gordon, Henry E. Noyes, Edward Ball, John M. Thomas, B. Dowson, Lewis Thompson, Edward J. Spaulding, Elijah R. Wells, and James Egan, all of whom served in the regiment with great credit during the Rebellion. Captain George L. Tyler, who was an officer in the Volunteers during the Rebellion, and Captain Alfred E. Bates and Seneca H. Norton, who graduated at West Point in 1865.

Several of the first lieutenants served in the Volunteers as follows: James N. Wheelan, who was a lieutenant-colonel; James T. Peale, a major; Randolph Norwood, a captain; Thomas J. Gregg, a captain; Frank C. Grugan, a first lieutenant; Samuel T. Hamilton, Martin E. O'Brien, a captain; William C. Rawolle (regimental quartermaster), a captain; and Gustavus C. Doane, a first lieutenant. First Lieutenants Christopher T. Hall, William F. Clark (killed), Samuel M. Swigert, and Joshua L. Fowler graduated at West Point June 15, 1868. Second Lieutenants Colon Augur and Frank V. Robinson were appointed from civil life; Second Lieutenant William A. Dinwiddie was an officer of Volunteers; Frank E. Nye and Jennifer H. Smallwood graduated at West Point June 15, 1869; Daniel C. Pearson, Edward J. McClelland, Charles B. Schofield, Frederick W. Kingsbury, and Lovell H. Jerome graduated June 15, 1870; and James N. Allison at the same Academy, June 12, 1871.

In the wars in which the regiment has been engaged since 1859 it has lost of its commissioned officers as follows: In the Indian wars, four officers killed, two wounded; in the Mexican war, three officers killed, seven wounded, and four taken by the enemy during the Rebellion, five officers killed, twelve wounded, and eight taken by the enemy.

The headquarters of the regiment are now at Omaha Barracks.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Brigadier-General C. C. Augur: Headquarters San Antonio, Texas.

At the session of the Cabinet April 2, it was decided to thoroughly protect the Texan frontier along the Rio Grande. The Secretary of War has accordingly issued orders to General Sheridan, commanding the Military Division of the Missouri, and General Augur, commanding the Department of Texas, to be specially vigilant in arresting Mexican raiders and all who engage in violating the customs revenue law, and turn them over to the civil authorities for punishment.

Ringgold Barracks, Texas.—From this post a correspondent writes: Since my last letter our civil and military authorities on this frontier have become involved in some curious complications with the officials on the other side of the Rio Grande. A little more than two weeks ago, the river steamer cleared from Brownsville for Comargo, with a large lot of bonded goods on board. As Comargo is in the hands of the Revolutionists, the Juarez officials in Matamoros were of course very much exercised, so their Collector of Customs and Commanding General warned Gen. McCook now in command of Fort Brown, that if the steamboat started up the river, they would open on her with artillery and sink her. It so happened that Gen. Barney, the Collector of Customs, had telegraphed to Washington for instructions, and had been ordered to clear the boat. The Mexican officials had also telegraphed to their Minister at Washington, Senor Pelacion on the subject, and had been notified by him, that as the American Executive had not been officially notified that Comargo was a closed port, the Collector at Brownsville had a perfect right to clear boats for that point. The threat of the Mexican officials to fire into the steamboat was therefore nothing but "a bluff." But it so happened that the Buckeye General in command of our forces knew the purport of all the telegrams, and as he had two well mounted Parrots, he held on his Arco amigos two bullets and a bragger; as the boys say he did not scare worth a cent, but replied to their threats by informing them that if they fired into the boat, under the American flag and with a proper clearance, he would consider it an act of war and batter down their town over their heads. The steamboat did come up, and the Juaristas, although they made direful threats, did not attack her. To prevent them from making an attack from this side of the river, and then blaming it on Texas desperadoes a strong detachment was sent down from this post to meet the steamer on her way up. Our chief interest in the craft was, that she had on board eighty recruits for us, of which reinforcement we stood in urgent need.

"In the mean time the dull monotony of our garrison here was broken by a ripple of excitement. On the 7th inst., just after guard mounting, the popping of carbines was heard and a few stray bullets fell in our midst.

There was a spontaneous combustion of military ardor among the boys in blue. They flew to arms without orders and seemed exclusively anxious to fight somebody, no matter who, but the row was soon over. It arose from an attack made on a train containing \$500,000 in silver which was crossing the ferry at this point. The train or conducta was owned by Revolutionists, and was attacked by a party under one of Cortina's desperadoes who rejoices in the cognomen of Caballo Blanco. It was a mere piece of bravado as the train was well guarded. Two of the bravos who were caught, paid dearly for their fun, as they were hung with that promptness which the inhabitants of the "land of God and Liberty" so much admire. I wrote promptness unadvisedly. When the Mexicans are in a hurry, they find a quicker method than hanging, to dispose of their prisoners; but hanging does not take long down here, the process being simply to tie a man by the neck to the limb of a tree and drive his pony from under him.

Before this letter reaches you a decisive battle will probably have been fought between the revolutionists and the government in Zacatecas. Trevino is, according to our latest information, falling back from before Rochoa. The latter has seven thousand regulars and the former six thousand rebels. They must fight before long or starve. The problem of war in Mexico seems to be, to scatter out to collect resources (which means in plain English to steal), and to concentrate from time to time to fight.

CENTURION.

Our Posts on the Rio Grande.—The re-election of Juarez as president of the Mexican republic, writes another correspondent on the Rio Grande, seemed a foregone conclusion sometime before it took place; and his opponents were agreed, in case of his success, to stir up the elements of revolution as soon as the fact was announced. Diaz, his rival, and others, had much show of opposition on the ground that Juarez had already served out two constitutional terms and was consequently ineligible. But the plausible reason of Juarez was adduced, affirming that his first term was not by popular vote, but by election of the Mexican Congress. All during last summer Government officers on the borders were kept advised of the doings of both parties, i. e., the Government leaders, and the Church party against Juarez, that a crisis was at hand. This broke out a few months ago, and, like all wars among that excitable people, has gone on with varying success but with doubtful result as to which will win. All along the Rio Grande, from the Gulf at Brownsville up the Eagle Pass, and on to El Paso, the Texan ranchmen and farmers have been kept in a constant fermentation and dread of raiding parties coming over the river, fordable in most parts, to help themselves to horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs. About three hundred miles west of the coast, and one hundred and fifty from San Antonio, is the town of Eagle Pass, and adjoining is the post of Fort Duncan, while directly across the Rio Grande is the town of Piedras Negras. The former has a population of 2,500, mostly Mexicans and a few Texans. The latter is larger and has perhaps 5,000 souls. It is a port of entry, and hence is sure to invite leaders of both parties in order to secure large sums of silver held there by the custom-house. During the late war with the South, Eagle Pass and Piedras Negras were important places, as cotton was conveyed thither for export into Mexico and so abroad, while the rebels got army and ammunition in return. Mexican carts carried heavy loads of silver in coin and bars to pay for cotton. The freighting back and forth all the way from San Antonio into the northern Mexican States is through this point mainly, and it is done in Mexican carts; hence the rich goods are often a prey to Mexican bandits who set upon them in Mexico and spoil them of their goods. Smuggling is carried on pretty largely, as it is difficult to guard so long a distance at all times. What with troublesome Indians harbored in Mexico, of the Lipans, Apaches, Comanches, and Kickapoos, who raid into Texas and run off horses and sell them cheaply to Mexicans, we have the shiftless race of Mexicans themselves to look after; and they are really worse than the Indians, because so many of them live in Texas and appear very friendly until disguised as Indians and ready to plunder and murder. Ranchmen are forewarned and on the lookout when any body of Indians are supposed to be about. But Mexicans readily take advantage of this wholesome fear and profit by it.

"More troops are needed in Texas, and it is possible General Augur, whose recent transfer to that department has taken place may now be in correspondence with the War Department to increase his supply of troops greatly needed on account of the large desertions which took place last fall incident to the reduction of the soldier's pay from \$16 per month to \$13, and the troubles growing out of the proximity of Mexican soldiers on the other side; as yet, however, we learn only of large numbers of recruits being forwarded. Quite recently several shots were fired from Piedras Negras across into Fort Duncan, striking the officers' quarters, and nearly the whole town flocked into Eagle Pass, overrunning the town and causing it to be very filthy and fruitful of disease.

"Colonel Bliss, commanding Fort Duncan, disarms all fleeing troops who cross the river to our side, and 'for a while,' he writes, 'it was a real Belgium in miniature.'

E. B. T.

Twenty-fourth Infantry.—In the case of Captain Frank W. Perry, Twenty-fourth Infantry, sentenced by a General Court-martial which convened at San Antonio, Texas, June 2, 1861, "to be cashiered," which sentence was mitigated to "suspension from rank for the period of eighteen months and from pay during the same period, excepting fifty dollars per month," (General Court-martial Orders No. 12, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, August 3, 1871) upon the recommendation of the commanding general Department of Texas, concurred in by the Judge-Advocate-General U. S. Army, the unexecuted portion of the mitigated sentence is, by General Court-martial Orders No. 6, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, March 27, 1872, remitted, and Captain Perry will be restored to duty.

Twenty-fifth Infantry, Geo. L. Andrews, Colonel.—A correspondent writing from Fort Clark, Texas, March 14, 1872, says: "The headquarters Twenty-fifth Infantry are now under orders for Fort Davis, and the companies will be stationed, at Davis, four, Stockton three, Major Y. R. Bliss to command; Quitman two, and Bliss one company. The headquarters and four companies Ninth Cavalry are ordered to this post."

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General Geo. G. Meade: Hdq'r's, Philadelphia.
DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

Brigadier-Gen. Irvin McDowell: Cor. Greene and Houston Sts. N.Y.

The following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East for the week ending April 2, 1872: First Lieutenant L. R. Stille, Twenty-third Infantry; Major A. J. Alexander, Eighth Cavalry; Colonel H. J. Hunt, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant C. R. Barnett, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant G. A. Thurston, Fourth Cavalry; Assistant Surgeon H. McElderry, U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant C. M. Rockefeller, Ninth Infantry; Assistant Surgeon H. E. Brown, U. S. Army.

First Artillery.—The leave of absence for six days granted First Lieutenant L. A. Chamberlin, First Artillery, in S. O. No. 19, headquarters Fort Wadsworth, New York Harbor, March 21, was extended ten days, or such portion thereof as he may find necessary.

Official information having been received of the promotion of Second Lieutenant J. M. K. Davis, Light Battery K, First Artillery, at Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, to be First Lieutenant, vice Norton, deceased, which carries him to Battery A, at Fort Ontario, Oswego, N. Y., he will proceed without delay to join the Battery to which his promotion carries him.

Fifth Artillery.—The leave of absence for seven days granted Second Lieutenant C. R. Barnett, in Orders No. 61, headquarters Fort Adams, R. I., March 23, has been extended ten days.

Leave of absence for ten days was granted Second Lieutenant W. B. Homer March 25.

David's Island, New York Harbor.—A General Court-martial met at David's Island, New York Harbor, on the 4th of April. Detail for the court: Colonel J. V. Bownford, Captain G. M. Brayton, Eighth Infantry; Assistant Surgeon W. E. Whitehead, U. S. Army; First Lieutenants E. B. Savage, F. A. Whitney, Second Lieutenants J. W. Summerhayes, J. McE. Hyde, Eighth Infantry. Second Lieutenant John O'Connell, Eighth Infantry, judge-advocate.

Fort Adams Rhode Island.—A General Court-martial met at Fort Adams, R. I., on the 29th of March. Detail for the court: Captain B. F. Rittenhouse, First Lieutenants W. E. Van Reed, W. B. Beck, S. A. Day, E. L. Zalinski, B. K. Roberts, and Wells Willard, Fifth Artillery. First Lieutenant S. M. Mills, Jr., Fifth Artillery, judge-advocate.

Fort Trumbull, Conn.—A General Court-martial met at Fort Trumbull, Conn., on the 29th of March. Detail for the court: Captain G. A. Kensel, Fifth Artillery; Assistant Surgeon D. L. Huntington, U. S. Army; First Lieutenants Paul Roemer, Frank Thorp, T. R. Adams, and O. H. Howard, Fifth Artillery. Second Lieutenant J. E. Sawyer, Fifth Artillery, judge-advocate.

Governor's Island.—Six months ago a soldier named Frederick Pope escaped from Governor's Island and has since been ensconced in Dutch Kills, Long Island City. On Sunday afternoon last, while on the farm of William Allen, he entered the barn and knocked down a boy named Jacob Hauser. While Hauser lay on the floor Pope seized a pickaxe and struck him on the left side, penetrating the intestines. Pope then walked away; but Hauser's painful cries soon attracted the attention of Allen and a hired man, and while the hired man held him Allen removed the weapon. Hauser immediately became insensible. He was conveyed to his house and attended by Dr. Byer, who pronounced his injuries fatal. Recorder Parcells took the boy's ante mortem and issue a warrant against Pope.

DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

Brigadier-General P. St. G. Cooke: Headquarters, Detroit, Mich.

First Lieutenant John M. K. Davis, First Artillery, was appointed aide-de-camp to the commanding general of the Department of the Lakes, March 28, and ordered to report at headquarters without unnecessary delay.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Maj.-Gen. J. M. Schofield: Hdq'r's, San Francisco, Cal.

The following officers registered at the headquarters Military Division of the Pacific during the week ending March 26: First Lieutenant J. L. Johnston, Twenty-first Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. R. Wasson, Fourth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant W. R. Hoag, Twenty-first Infantry; Second Lieutenant W. L. Sherwood, Twenty-first Infantry.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel Charles McCormick, surgeon U. S. Army, medical director Department of California, and Captain E. D. Baker, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, were elected members of the first class of the Military Order Loyal Legion at a stated meeting of the California commandery held at Army Building, San Francisco, March 6, 1872.

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

Alcatraz Island, Cal.—The General Court-martial, of which Captain James M. Robertson, Second Artillery, was president, was dissolved March 19.

Fort Yuma, Cal.—Major Charles J. Sprague, paymaster U. S. Army, March 6, was ordered to pay the troops at Fort Yuma, California, and southern Arizona, to February 29, 1872; and those in northern Arizona to April 30, 1872.

Twenty-first Infantry.—The companies of the Twenty-first Infantry, which arrived at San Francisco by the steamer *Newbern*, March 6, were ordered to take post temporarily at Angel Island, San Francisco Harbor.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

Lieutenant-Colonel George Crook, Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.
A correspondent of the *World*, writing from Prescott,

Arizona, March 9, says: "The simple truth of the matter is that affairs here are in a bad way, and in imminent danger of becoming worse soon, unless General Crook, who is already on the war path, shall shoot red devils enough to terrify and keep the rest quiet. General Crook is considered by us a man who will do as much as any man possibly can do with his small force of cavalry, guides, and scouts. They will have to do most of their work at night, for the savages have lynx eyes, and know all that goes on by daylight. They have been ordered to stay on their reservations, and be fed with government rations; but there is no good in ordering these lawless fiends to do anything, unless there is sufficient force to back the order. They are abroad now, robbing, murdering, pillaging, and committing other and nameless crimes, and they must be put down—exterminated—if we are to have any security of life and property. The details of various outrages are given. In one case the Apaches set fire to a house adjoining a corral, because otherwise they could not get at the cattle. People living near heard the noise of the flames, ran out, and found it impossible to get near enough to rescue a man who was within, and who was burned to death. The corral was on fire, and so the people ran and opened the gates to keep the cattle from being roasted alive, and when the poor beasts ran out bellowing the Indians got them and drove them off. A party of men immediately went in pursuit, and when the news reached Santa Fe Lieutenant Gordon, with twenty cavalrymen and five days' rations, also went on the trail, but as yet we have heard nothing from them, but believe they are somewhere near Apache Pass."

Twenty-first Infantry.—Stations of officers March 1, 1872: Colonel Robert S. Granger, Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., commanding regiment; Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Wheaton, Presidio, San Francisco, Cal.; Major Edwin C. Mason, Fort Yuma, Cal., under orders to proceed to the Department of the Columbia: Captains—Thomas S. Dunn (D), Camp Lowell, Arizona Territory, commanding company; 2. Richard F. O'Beirne (H), Camp Date Creek, Arizona Territory, commanding company and post; 3. Evan Miles (E), Camp Crittenden, Arizona Territory, commanding company and post; 4. Patrick Collins (A), Sacramento, Cal., General Recruiting Service; 5. George M. Downey (K), San Francisco, Cal., on General Recruiting Service; 6. William McC. Netterville (I), Camp Hualpai, Arizona Territory, commanding company; 7. Harry M. Smith (G), Camp Bowie, Arizona Territory, commanding company and post; 8. William Nelson (F), en route to the Department of the Columbia, commanding company; 9. William D. Fuller (B), Camp Apache, Arizona Territory, commanding company; 10. George H. Burton (C), Colorado river, Indian Reservation, Arizona Territory, commanding detachment and station. First Lieutenants.—1. Valentine M. C. Silva (E), Fort Yuma depot, Arizona Territory, acting assistant quartermaster; 2. Robert Pollock (F), Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, awaiting arrival of the regiment; 3. John L. Johnston, (regimental quartermaster), Tucson, Arizona Territory, depot quartermaster; 4. William F. Spurgin (K), Camp Crittenden, Arizona Territory, commanding company; 5. William A. Boyle (C), Fort Whipple, Arizona Territory, commanding company and post; 6. Thomas F. Riley (A), on leave of absence; 7. George W. Evans, (regimental adjutant), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal.; 8. Ebenezer W. Stone (G), Fort Yuma, California, awaiting arrival of his company; 9. James A. Staughery (H), Ehrenberg, Arizona Territory, acting assistant quartermaster; 10. Thomas H. Bradley (D), Washington, D. C., on duty in War Department; 11. Edward R. Theller (I), Camp Hualpai, Arizona Territory, with company, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence; 12. John M. Ross (B), Camp Apache, Arizona Territory, with company. Second Lieutenants.—1. William L. Sherwood (E), Camp Crittenden, Arizona Territory, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary subsistence; 2. Frederick H. E. Epstein (H), Camp Date Creek, as acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence and post adjutant; 3. Henry H. Pierce, Wheeling, W. Va., Professor of military science; 4. Edward B. Rheem (C), Fort Whipple, Arizona Territory, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary subsistence; 5. William J. Ross (K), Prescott, Arizona Territory, aide-de-camp to Brevet Major-General George Crook; 6. S. P. Jocelyn (D), Camp Lowell, Arizona Territory, with company; 7. W. R. Hoag (I), on leave of absence. (Three vacancies.)

A PETITION signed by a good number of the physicians of New York was presented to the House April 1, asking for the establishment of professorship of dental surgery at the Military Academy, and also one of the same character at the Naval Academy. The petition was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

THE *Panama Star and Herald* of March 21, says: The steamer *Virginus* long undergoing repairs in the harbor of Aspinwall, has at last moved out from her berth in Fox river, and has taken up a position off the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's wharf. The Spanish war steamer *Pizarro*, on her doing so, also shifted her anchorage and came within 300 yards of the *Virginus*. For what purpose every one asks? And by what right does the commander of the *Pizarro* make use of such menacing movements in the harbor of a friendly, neutral and independent nation? Is it with the tacit consent of the authorities of the Isthmus that he does so? The presence of the Spanish cruisers in the harbor of Aspinwall, ever since the *Virginus* put into that port in distress, has been a mystery to all concerned for the dignity of the Colombian Government as well as the attitude of the authorities of the Isthmus. From the relative position which the two vessels have assumed in the harbor of Aspinwall, affairs evidently tend to a crisis, and Colombian authorities will be to blame if they have left anything undone to secure the necessary protection and fair play to the *Virginus*, being, as she is, a bona fide American vessel.

THE NAVY.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE *Tuscarora*, third class (10), in ordinary at Portsmouth Navy-yard, is shortly to be fitted out for foreign service.

ON March 30 a draft of men for the U. S. steamer *Lackawanna* at Mare Island, Cal., were sent out by Pacific mail steamer.

A BILL authorizing the President to appoint L. R. Chester, formerly an acting ensign in the Navy, upon the retired list, with the rank of master, has passed both houses of Congress.

THE U. S. steamer *Supply*, fourth rate (6), is fitting out at the Brooklyn Navy-yard in connection with the *Portsmouth*, to carry stores to the South Atlantic squadron, and crew for the *Lancaster*.

REPRESENTATIVE Schofield has introduced a bill in the House, providing that the name of Albert Ross, of the United States Navy, shall be placed on the retired list of officers, as a lieutenant, from December 20, 1871, with the retired pay of the grade from that date.

ON Tuesday, April 2, a draft of 236 men from receiving ship *Ohio*, at Boston, arrived at Navy-yard, New York, in charge of Lieutenant-Commander A. S. Crowninshield and mate, J. Griffin. They are destined for U. S. steamer *Lancaster*, South Atlantic fleet, per U. S. steamer *Portsmouth*.

CAPTAIN John G. Todd is the only surviving officer of the navy of the Texas Republic. The Texas Legislature last year passed a resolution requesting the Government to include him among the naval officers with the rank he held at the time of annexation—that of Captain, and it is still hoped it will be done. He is old and poor.

Navy-yard, New York, April 3d.—The following officers have reported to take passage in the *Portsmouth* for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Lieutenant-Commander, F. W. Dickins; Assistant Surgeon, B. F. Fassig; First Assistant Engineer, B. C. Gowing, Arthur Price; Second Assistant Engineer, W. B. Bayley; Captain F. Munroe, Second Lieutenant R. D. Wainwright, Marine Corps.

THE following important bill in relation to the distribution of prize-money in the Navy has been introduced in the House by Mr. Schofield:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all cases where corrections in the distribution of prize-money have or may become necessary, and in all cases where the names of parties entitled to share in prizes have been or may by error be omitted from the prize lists, the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized to direct the proper accounting officers of the Treasury to correct and pay the same; the former upon the principle that the provisions of the act in force at the date of final adjudication govern distribution, and the latter to receive their proportion of the prizes claimed the same as all others of like rank and pay who may have been paid, using, for such purposes, any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated."

THE U. S. steamer *Portsmouth*, 3d rate, 1st class, 15 guns, has been fitted out at Navy-yard, New York, and will go into commission on Monday, April 8th. She will probably sail by April 15th. The following officers have reported at Navy-yard up to April 3, for duty on the *Portsmouth*: Captain, C. H. B. Caldwell; Lieutenant-Commanders, E. A. Walker, G. W. Wood; Lieutenants, J. S. Newell, W. T. Swinburne, E. W. Sturdy, M. Bolles; Ensigns, A. P. Nazro, W. H. Driggs, J. H. Moore, W. Kellogg, C. E. Calahan, A. G. Berry; Midshipman, W. H. E. Masser; Past Assistant Surgeon, M. C. Drennan; Past Assistant Paymaster, G. W. Long; Boatswain, J. McDonald; Gunner, J. Stewart; Acting Carpenter, B. E. Fernald; Sailmaker, G. D. Macy.

THE *Shavmut*, third rate (3), Commander Edward E. Potter commanding, left Samana, San Domingo, January 3, and after touching at Point à Pitre, Guadeloupe, Saint Pierre, Martinique, and Port of Spain, Trinidad, arrived at Bolivar, Venezuela, two hundred and fifty miles up the Orinoco river, on the 30th of the same month. The city was then in the possession of an armed party in rebellion against the General Government of Venezuela, styling themselves Blues, and coming from the northern States, who had seized the American steamers *San Fernando* and *Nutrias*, which were engaged in the navigation of the Orinoco above Bolivar. A surrender of these steamers was obtained without a resort to force, thus materially crippling the revolutionary party, who, attacked by an army in the interest of the General Government and threatened by the near approach of two teams of the national navy, evacuated the city, retreating towards the north. The *Shavmut* still remained at Bolivar, July 21, protecting American interests, which are quite important, and awaiting a rise of the river, which was expected in about a month. The *Shavmut* is the first American man-of-war, and the largest one of any nation which has ever visited Bolivar, where she has been of great service to all neutral residents, whose persons and property were threatened during the civil troubles.

THE Senate on Monday passed a bill to carry out the recommendations of the naval board appointed to examine into the cases of such officers as deemed themselves unjustly passed over by the promotions made in conformity with the act of 1866. The bill, in conformity with, and to carry into effect the recommendations and conclusions of the board of officers organized in pursuance of the resolution for the relief of certain officers of the Navy, approved July 1, 1870, proposes to authorize the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to restore Commodore Joseph F. Green to his original position on the navy list, next below Rear-Admiral Boggs; to promote Commodore John DeCamp to his original relative position as a rear-admiral on the retired list; to promote Commodore Charles W. Pickering to the grade of commodore on the retired list, with the retired pay of his advanced rank; to advance Captain Egbert Thompson in rank next below Captain Thomas G. Corbin; to promote Commander Samuel R. Franklin to take rank next after Commander James S. Thornton; to restore Commander Edward T. McCauley to his original rank, next after

Commander W. D. Whiting; to restore Commanders John H. Russell, A. W. Johnson, P. C. Johnson, John Watters, A. E. K. Benham, Austin Pendergraft, and W. P. McCann, respectively, to their original places on the Navy list; and to advance Lieutenant-Commanders James H. Sands and Charles DeSigsbee each ten numbers in his grade for gallant service.

DESPATCHES to the Navy Department from Rear-Admiral Winslow, dated flagship *California*, Valparaiso, February 29, mention his arrival there after a fifty-six days' passage from Honolulu. The stay in Honolulu was limited, and after a delay of twelve days he sailed for Tahiti, in Society Islands, on the 4th of January, leaving the *Narragansett* in port with orders to remain until the 15th for the purpose of filling up her complement of men, and then proceed on a cruise among the different groups of islands near the equator, making certain surveys. It having been represented to Admiral Winslow by the American minister resident at Honolulu that an interview with King Kamehameha would tend to promote and strengthen the friendly feeling existing between the government of the United States and the Hawaiian Islands, Admiral Winslow requested that his Majesty would grant him an audience, and on the 28th of December he was received at the palace accompanied by his staff. A printed slip from the *Hawaiian Gazette* of January 3 contains an account of the interview. Queen Emma assisted at the audience. Admiral Winslow made a speech expressive of the interest this government feels in the welfare of the Hawaiian Islands, not only from the commercial value and reciprocal advantages, but because they have been the field of American missionary labor from an early date. He also took occasion to express thanks for the efficient aid rendered by the Hawaiian government to the crew of the *Saginaw*, wrecked in those waters. His Majesty responded, expressing reciprocal terms of friendship. He said he had been thanked officially by the Government for rendering assistance at the time of the *Saginaw* disaster, but repeated that in giving assistance to shipwrecked seamen in this ocean he followed the alacrity and devotion of our naval service. His Majesty having expressed a desire to visit the *California*, the largest and most imposing man-of-war that ever entered the harbor, Admiral Winslow delayed sailing a day or two, and received him on board with the usual honors. The presence of the *California* was greeted with pleasure by every person in Honolulu, and the event will be productive of good results. The *California* would soon sail for Callao, touching at the principal ports, and expected to arrive at Jamaica between the 1st and 10th of May.

A CORRESPONDENT, "Blue Jacket," writes from the European squadron as follows: On the first of February a whale-boat of 12 oars belonging to the United States steamer *Junata*, Captain S. B. Luce, challenged any boat at that time lying in the harbor of Ville Franche, France, to pull a race for a purse of one hundred dollars. The challenge was accepted by a 14-oared cutter belonging to the United States steamer *Plymouth*, Captain Randolph Breese, to pull a straight race of 2 miles, on the 7th day of February. The tars went into training, and on the 7th, at 2 1/2 P. M., crowds from Nice and Ville Franche assembled to witness the race. The boats were towed out to the stake-boat by the steam-launch of each ship. At 3 P. M. the gun was fired, when the tars bent to their oars with great zeal; and after a closely contested and exciting trial, the race was won by the *Plymouth's* cutter; time 17 minutes, beating the *Junata's* whale boat 7 seconds. One of the officers of the *Plymouth* determined to show the spirit of Van Tromp by sticking an American broom in the bows of his boat, as much as to say, "I will sweep these waters of all that floats." The boat pulled around the harbor by the way of a challenge, when it was accepted by a 14-oared cutter belonging to the United States steamer *Wabash*, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral James Alden, for the same stakes and the same course, on the 13th day of February. On the afternoon mentioned, at 2 1/2 P. M., the boats were towed out to the stake-boat; at 3 P. M. the gun was fired and the lads went to work, but it was soon evident that the *Wabash* boat was nowhere. The *Plymouth's* boat won by 47 seconds, making the course in 16 minutes 20 seconds. The emblem was again stuck up, with the addition of a live rooster perched on top of it. She pulled the harbor, when she was again challenged by the 14-oared cutter belonging to the United States steamer *Brooklyn*, Captain Bryson. The same terms were made, when the *Plymouth's* boat again was victorious. As the boats passed the bows of the *Plymouth* her band struck up "Shoo Fly, don't Bother Me" and "Yankee Doodle," the steam launch blew her whistle and stuck up a flag in her bow. On the launch's flag-staff were seven roosters, and at the top a broom was lashed bearing a rooster ingeniously made of copper and fitted with steel springs, holding in his beak a scroll with the word "Champion Cock of the European fleet!" This boat beat seven competitors, two English and five American. The officer who was the moving spirit in the affair says he will not be satisfied until he has changed the words to "I am Champion of European Waters," as he means to challenge the cutters of the navies of Europe. The officers of the *Plymouth* presented the racing crew with appropriate racing shirts and caps, and on the 22d of February they pulled the harbor, but had no challenges. At 1 P. M., five of the crew got the catamaran and five shovels to paddle round the harbor. They were dressed in a very imposing costume, having on tall hats, but being in other respects dressed like Indians. They paddled under the bows of each ship and tossed shovels, and afterwards gave their war dance; so the day passed off with harmony and amusement. If the Navy Department were aware of what good such small things do to their seamen abroad, I think they would encourage it. It exalts them in the eyes of other national seamen; and again, the doctor's list is greatly diminished during these times, for it is not only exciting but is beneficial to the health, as it relieves the monotony of a man-of-war. People on shore go to a theatre for amusement, then why should not Jack, who is secluded from friends

and society for three years, have such amusements as the discipline of the service can afford.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATION.

(From the reports in the New York Dailies.)

AT the meeting of the Select Committee to investigate the charges against Secretary Robeson on the 28th of March the Secretary, with ex-Senator Cattell, C. A. Dana and his counsel, and nine or ten witnesses, were in attendance. Secretary Robeson said that, notwithstanding the request of the Committee that he should employ counsel, he had determined not to do so. He intended to be present at all the meetings except when prevented by the pressure of official duty, to the end that he might be informed of the progress of the proceedings and to give such information as the Committee might desire.

The Secretary then read a paper he had prepared, in which he said charges had been made against him in the *New York Sun*, impeaching his integrity as Secretary of the Navy. These charges were repeated from day to day, in various forms, alleging fraud and robberies of the most flagrant character, and of enormous amounts. Referring to the resolution under which the Committee was appointed, he called attention to the twofold nature of the duty imposed—first, to investigate the charges referred to in the preamble, and secondly, to enter into the general inquiry of irregularities in the Navy Department for the last three years. He then cited the charges as they appeared in the *New York Sun* of March 2, 4, 7, 12, and 13 inst., of robbery, for the purpose of enriching himself and confederates, and other crimes to the extent of not less than \$1,400,000. He said at the first meeting the accuser appeared with counsel, and, declining to present charges, he demanded that he be present in person or by counsel. The Committee gave him this privilege. Accordingly the editor abandoned his position as accuser, and now came in as a prosecutor, constituting himself the general inquisitor of the Navy Department. He could not permit the Navy Department to be placed in such an ignominious position. He was willing to give all information touching his department as far as was consistent with the public service. He insisted that this broad inquiry into the affairs of the Department was intrusted to the Committee, and not the publisher of scandalous newspaper charges which the publisher did not present to the Committee or sustain by oath. Concerning the charges of fraud and corruption against himself, personal and official, which appeared in the *New York Sun*, he insisted the accusations should assume some definite shape before the Committee, and that his accuser, who had not scrupled to produce them before the public, should be first called upon to make them good or abjure them under oath. If the publisher should establish the definite charge he has made, it would hardly be necessary for the Committee to go further; but, if he refuse or fail to sustain them by oath and witnesses, he would stand before the community a convicted and wanton libeller. It would then be for the Committee to determine to what extent he should be intrusted with the management of the case. When the accuser shall fall to sustain his charges, then he (Secretary Robeson) would feel that his personal honor had been vindicated, and then the inquiry into the Navy Department could be proceeded with. In making his request he felt that he was not asking for more than what was allowed under the law, and therefore he wished to be informed of the character of the accusation and confronted with the accuser, who should make good his charges or expose his falsehood.

Mr. Bartlett, counsel for Mr. Dana, said: When they first attended this Committee the question was formally discussed. One of the members was in favor of putting Mr. Dana on the stand at once, and examining him as to his personal knowledge, and as to the source from which information, not of his personal knowledge, was obtained. On that occasion he discussed the manner in which the examination should proceed, and then stated they came here on invitation of the Committee, not having been summoned as witnesses. They were desirous to present to the Committee the proofs of the charges in the *New York Sun*, as well as other grave charges in regard to the administration of the Navy Department, and every effort made on that occasion was to procure the largest possible scope, that they might not be confined to charges now published, but other charges as grave and within their knowledge. It had taken one member of the Committee four days to resign his place. On two successive evenings the Secretary of the Navy attended here, and this was the first they heard of what was to be the mode of procedure of the Committee. His whole object was by no means as misrepresented in the press, namely, to abandon the charges as made in the *Sun*; he repeated, if they were not allowed to substantiate their charges in the manner fixed by the Committee, their future action would depend on what might now be determined.

After conversation between the members, Mr. Peters offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution of the Committee heretofore adopted, allowing the editor of the *New York Sun* to appear with counsel and examine witnesses, is not to be construed to extend beyond evidence to sustain the charges against the Secretary of the Navy, contained in articles heretofore published in that newspaper.

The resolution was adopted, Mr. Sargent only voting in the negative. Mr. Bartlett then called attention to the statutes authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to settle the claims of Secor & Co. and Perrine, Secor & Co., and the subsequent payment of \$215,539 to them. This was on account of the *Manhattan*, *Tecumseh*, and *Mahopac*, and the law provided it should be in full. Mr. Bartlett then read the orders signed by John Lenthall, chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repairs, for extra pay to those parties on their contracts, amounting to \$62,665 to Secor & Co., and \$30,451 to Perrine, Secor & Co.

John Lenthall was sworn, and was interrogated concerning those orders. He said that his understanding was that Secor & Co.'s bills were settled under Mr.

Welles's administration; he did not recollect another instance where a matter settled by one administration was opened by another; there might or might not have been such instances. He signed the bills under orders of the Secretary of the Navy. Knowing there had been a board of naval officers in the case, he had but one interview with the Secretary of the Navy as to the payment of these extra claims. The Secretary wished to know of him whether there was any fund out of which the money could be paid. He replied to the Secretary there was some law in which Secor's name was mentioned, and informed the Secretary there was no fund but that of the current appropriation for the use of the bureau. The Secretary made no reply. The conversation was brief, and took place a day or two before payment was made.

In reply to a question of Secretary Robeson the witness said there was no concealment about the payment of the money; the bill was paid as other bills were paid; bills were paid out of the money of the Bureau of Construction and Repairs when there was no other money out of which bills could be paid; the Secretary never ordered him to reopen the Secor account, and therefore he never said "no reasons could be produced in its support;" he did not hold up to the Secretary a receipt in full of these claims; he never did proclaim against their payment, and he never said he would not pay without a written order; he voluntarily called on the Secretary to say that, so far as he was concerned, the published statements in connection with his name did him injustice.

At the next meeting of the Committee, March 29, John Lenthall, ex-chief of the Naval Bureau of Construction and Repairs, was recalled by Mr. Bartlett, counsel for Mr. Dana. Secretary Robeson produced a letter, which was identified by Mr. Lenthall as the one approving the action of the Board which allowed the claims of Secor & Co., and Perrine, Secor & Co., for extra work upon the iron-clads *Manhattan*, *Mahopac*, and *Tennessah*, and ordering him to make out vouchers in their favor. In answer to questions by Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Lenthall said he had been directed by Secretary Robeson to advertise for proposals to furnish live oak timber, and he thought it was likely that he had suggested the purchase of the timber to the Secretary, as he knew the stock on hand was nearly exhausted. Bids were received, in answer to the advertisement, and a schedule of them furnished the Secretary for his action. Several days afterward Lenthall said he received instructions from the Secretary to accept the proposals of two of the bidders, and notify them to that effect. Before the contracts were made, he retired from the bureau, and, consequently, had nothing to do with their execution. There was a special appropriation for the purchase of timber. The Secretary asked him if the bids were not made in the usual form and the contracts awarded to the lowest bidders. He said they were. In answer to a question by Mr. Bartlett, he said he fixed the size and quantity of the timber himself; it was a professional question, and belonged to the bureau, and not to the Secretary.

Chief Engineer C. H. Baker was next examined. He said, in answer to questions, that when he joined the *Worcester*, in March, 1871, her coal was already on board, having been taken in at Charlestown Navy Yard. On her passage from Boston to Plymouth, England, its quality was discovered; thirty to forty per cent. of the greater part of the coal was refuse, while the refuse of good coal was generally about twenty-five per cent. When it was possible, bad coal was rejected upon the survey of a board of officers, and, in some cases, bad coal had been thrown overboard, but in this case no action was taken. He had known coal to be so poor as to stop the engines. The effect upon the machinery was not injurious, the flues being only temporarily clogged. It was customary for the Chief Engineer to state such facts in his quarterly report to the Department. Some of the coal on the *Worcester* was very good, and some of it as bad as he had ever seen.

Mr. Archer inquired if the Government was in the habit of paying for the patent rights on engines which were put into vessels, and instanced the charge made by Secor & Co. for \$5,000, which had been paid to Ericsson for his patent rights upon an engine they had put into one of the vessels built by them. Mr. Lenthall said that a provision was always made in contracts that the Government should not be liable for patent rights, and the charge referred to should not have been made against the Government.

W. W. King, chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, was called, and said that he had held his present position since March, 1869, having been appointed by the President during Mr. Borie's administration. Mr. Bartlett read portions of Mr. King's reports for 1869, 1870, and 1871, and inquired how purchases were usually made. Mr. King said requisitions were made from the Navy-yards for the articles needed by them, and, after they are approved in the Navy Department, the paymaster at the Navy-yard from which the requisition is made makes the purchase, if the articles are not on hand in other Navy-yards. Should the required material be on hand at other points, it is transferred to the yard making the requisition. The paymasters have no special directions as to the manner of making purchases, but the custom is to advertise for proposals when any considerable purchase is to be made, even in cases of emergency; but when the amount is less than \$1,000, the paymaster sends notices to persons having the articles for sale, and buys as well as he can. When supplies are to be purchased for ships, it is done without advertising, when the exigencies of the circumstances require it. The usual yearly purchases had not been made of late years, for reasons of economy. Since the war the appropriations have been small, and had to be held in hand, as it could not be told beforehand how much would be needed for repairs, etc.; and it was also deemed best to keep on hand as little perishable material as possible. Mr. King said he had never received any verbal or written order from either Mr. Borie or Mr. Robeson to purchase of any particular person, or to favor anybody, nor

had he received any orders which seemed to favor any one. In fact, he had not received any orders relative to purchase, and he was himself responsible for his bureau. It was not the duty of this bureau to supply ships, but only to furnish supplies for the works at Navy-yards, the purchases being made by the local paymasters. The coal for the Navy-yard in California was purchased in that State. The names of the Cattells did not appear on the records, either as buyers or sellers to the Government. They were never authorized to make purchases of anything. The coal for the Navy-yards is inspected by a chief engineer, while that for vessels is inspected by the Bureau of Equipment, although a chief engineer may be detailed for the latter purpose, as is the case at Philadelphia. He had never known the Secretary to give orders for purchasing coal without advertising; that matter was always attended to by the heads of bureaus; claims for extra work on engines would either be presented to the bureau for payment or to a board appointed for the purpose; boards were generally appointed; if the claim was small, the bureau would pay it on the finding of the board; should it be a large one, the action of the board would have to be first approved by the Secretary.

The committee met again April 1 and decided not to receive the testimony of Colonel William P. Wood, whom Mr. Dana had on Friday called to show that Mr. Simon Johnson, deceased, employed or sought to employ the witness to prevent a disclosure of the true character of the Secor claims, and that he admitted to the witness their fraudulent character.

Commodore Case, chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, testified that in December, 1871, he did not make the contracts for the construction of two engines for two torpedo boats with John Roach & Sons, New York, but he signed them by order of the Secretary of the Navy; he requested the Secretary to have the contracts prepared and have the witness sign them. In order that there might be no complications he wanted the contracts prepared by experts. No provisions of law were violated. He thought the contracts were drawn in the Bureau of Construction. The witness was president of the board which selected the models for the torpedo boats. He recommended the boats should be built at the Navy-yards. This recommendation did not cover the engines. The department did not want the public to know anything about the building of these boats. This investigation was defeating the objects of the Ordnance Office, whose movements in this matter were secret, and it was important the office should keep its own knowledge.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Bartlett whether the use of engines with the Fowler wheel attached was not rather an innovation, the witness said—

It takes the place of the ordinary paddle wheel, and with it a vessel can be steered as well in one direction as another; he did not know who fixes the prices for the engines; one of the boats was designed by Chief Constructor Hanscom and the other by Admiral Porter; as the Admiral designed one of them he had a right to say what engines he would put in the boat; so with the Chief Constructor.

Secretary Robeson asked the Commodore numerous questions, to which he responded [that he had been in the service forty-four years, and had been Chief of the Ordnance Bureau since August, 1869. As to advertising for supplies, he had been informed that Admiral Dahlgren, while Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, acted on the principle that the law did not apply to that office, because it was not always advisable to let the public know what it was doing. After the torpedo boats were authorized, various models were submitted to the board by different parties. The board was appointed by the Secretary of the Navy. It consisted of Chief Constructor Hanscom, Delano, Lenthall, Captain Ammen and the witness. The board selected two models, those of Hanscom and Admiral Porter. They were accompanied with a description of the necessary speed and the power to be obtained. Both parties were perfectly satisfied that the engines would give the results required by the bureau. The contracts guaranteed certain results—a certain number of revolutions. There could have been no guarantee of results if the engines were made at the Navy-yards. If in the Navy-yards results are missed there is no remedy but to make new efforts. The Treasury Department was building two revenue propellers with the Fowler wheel, and the Navy Department delayed a good while to find out about that wheel. It was considered that the torpedo boats were experiments. The witness considered a torpedo boat an experiment; he wanted five, thinking that one good one could be got out of them; as to iron for these boats, he said he wrote to Moorehead & Co., of Pittsburgh, by order of the Secretary of the Navy, and asked them to make propositions as they had the best reputation. They, however, could not do the work. The witness had said to the Secretary, who had asked him whether it was necessary to advertise, that it was not necessary.

Mr. Bartlett called the attention of the witness to the laws of 1843 and 1861, which require all naval supplies to be advertised, which the witness explained had been construed not to apply to the Ordnance Bureau, and so approved by Secretary Welles. It was under this construction that the great transactions of the war were carried on.

Mr. Archer asked the witness' opinion as to the relative quality of work done at the Navy-yards and by private contractors, when witness replied that he considered they got better work at the Navy-yards.

Mr. Goldsborough, chief clerk Bureau of Construction and Repairs, testified that he had no particular conversation with Lenthall about the law of 1868; he came into his room by accident, when Lenthall told him he had a written order to pay the Secor extra claims, and that this order was received out of office hours.

W. H. Allyn testified that he was for eight years in the Bureau of Steam Engineering and left in August, 1870. While the chief of the bureau, Mr. King, was in California, a package of letters was brought to him by Mr. Shook, including the Boggs report on the Secor claims. After looking at them the witness said they did

not pertain to that bureau, but belonged to the Bureau of Construction. He looked over the report concerning the three vessels, and saw the aggregate amount allowed was \$93,000, or thereabouts. The witness then made a statement as to what the board reported, and closed by calling the attention of the Secretary of the Navy to the law of 1866 on the Secor claims, which gave \$115,000 in full satisfaction of all claims. He gave this statement to Mr. Shook, being anxious the Secretary should know the provisions of that law. He afterwards saw Mr. Lenthall, and told him these papers had been sent to the bureau by mistake. When Mr. King returned he brought to him the statement he had prepared, and asked him what it meant. Mr. King seemed quite angry at the action taken by the witness, and turned abruptly and left him. Witness did not know whether Shook has returned the papers to the Department or to the Bureau of Construction. The opinion of the witness was that the law of 1868 estopped the Secors from further claims. Among the papers was a letter from King to the Secors, stating the items of these claims had not been considered by the former board, of which he was a member. In reply to a question witness said it was the custom of the bureau to state the terms of the contracts with fulness and care, and with great particularity.

In response to the questions by Secretary Robeson witness said contracts were not always advertised, but sometimes notice was given to contractors, and that during the late war contracts were made to the extent of \$8,000,000. The witness wished it to be understood he had given no information, directly or indirectly, to the *New York Sun*.

SHIP CANAL ACROSS THE ISTHMUS.

NEW YORK, February 27, 1872.

To the President: The United States are deeply concerned in all movements aimed at the creation of new or the deflection of ancient lines of traffic, and especially in those for the creation of an Inter-oceanic Ship Canal across the American Isthmus at some point best adapted to the requirements of her commerce and to the commanding of the trade between western Europe and eastern Asia.

Within the last few years numerous surveys and explorations have been made with this object in view, and reports, with maps, plans, and estimates of cost have been made in great detail, and are now in the possession of the Government, and will doubtless furnish an amount of data sufficient to enable a just comparison of the relative advantages of the proposed routes, and to authorize, if not call for such an investigation. Being, in common with their fellow-citizens of the United States, deeply interested in the questions involved, the undersigned have the honor to request that the President will constitute a commission to be composed of five distinguished officers of high rank, viz: two from the Army, two from the Navy, and one from the Coast Survey of the United States, to which may be referred the reports and accompanying maps, and documents of the several United States and other surveys and explorations of the American Isthmus, and that the commission may be requested to make a careful and complete analysis of the same, and report whether or not such surveys and explorations determine the practicability of constructing at a reasonable cost, a ship canal across the American Isthmus, and if so, what point or points are the most eligible for such a route and the most advantageous to the United States. We have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servants,

E. A. CONKLING, HORACE GREELEY,
WILSON G. HUNT, COOPER, HEWITT & Co.,
LEVI P. MORTON, JOHN J. CISCO,
J. C. CALHOUN, MOSES TAYLOR,
WILLIAM ORTON, H. C. FARNESTOCK,
WILLIAM J. HOPPIN, GEO. W. BLUNT,
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R. G. ROLSTON, SAM'L SLOAN,
THOS. C. DURANT,

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, March 13, 1872.
Messrs. F. A. Conkling, Wilson G. Hunt, Horace Greeley, and others.
GENTLEMEN: Acknowledging the acceptance of your letter of the 27th ult., I have to say that the President has this day appointed Brevet Major-General Andrew A. Humphreys of the U. S. Army, Prof. Benjamin Pierce of Massachusetts, and Captain Daniel Ammen of the U. S. Navy, commissioners to examine and consider all surveys, plans, proposals, or suggestions of routes of communication by canal or water connection between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, across, over, or near the Isthmus connecting North and South America, which have already been submitted, or which may be hereafter submitted, to the President during the pendency of their appointment, or which may be referred to them by the President, and to report, in writing, their conclusions, and the result of such examination, to the President, with their opinion as to the probable cost and practicability of such route or plan, and such other matters in connection therewith, as they may think proper and pertinent. I have the honor to be, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

HAMILTON FISH.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

MARCH 27.—Paymaster A. S. Kenny, to the Plymouth, European Fleet.

MARCH 29.—Surgeon Wm. T. Hord, Paymaster Richard Washington, Chaplain Frank P. Cox, and Chief Engineer Francis C. Dade, to the Lancaster.

Acting Carpenter Benjamin Fernald, to the Lancaster.

Ensign Thomas S. Phelps, to the Lackawana.

MARCH 30.—Commander James H. Gillis, to the command of the storeship Supply on the 6th of April.

APRIL 1.—Lieutenant Edwin S. Houston, to the storeship Supply, and join the Lancaster on arriving at Rio.

Passed Assistant Paymaster H. T. B. Harris, and Assistant Surgeon Fortius P. Bielby, to the Supply.

DETACHED.

MARCH 27.—Rear-Admiral William Rogers Taylor, from duty as president Retiring Board, and to command South Atlantic Fleet, by steamer of April 23.

Commander Jonathan Young, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered as chief of staff, South Atlantic Fleet.

Paymaster Charles P. Thompson, from the Plymouth, European Fleet, and ordered to return to the United States.

APRIL 1.—Lieutenant-Commander B. J. Cromwell, from the Plymouth, and ordered to the Juniata.

APRIL 3.—Lieutenant-Commander Charles O'Neil, from the Ohio, and ordered to the Supply; upon arriving at Rio he will report on the Lancaster.

RESIGNED.

MARCH 27.—Chief Engineer Clark Fisher.

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A JUNIOR FIRST LIEUTENANT OF INFANTRY
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A BILL has been presented in Congress to abolish the present system of retiring naval officers on half pay, and allowing them to be assigned to duty with full pay at the pleasure of the Secretary, and substituting for it two-thirds pay, with a prohibition of active duty as in the Army. This bill receives the endorsement of Port-Admiral STRINGHAM of New York, and of nearly all the retired officers of the Navy. It will shut the door on the favoritism now shown in assigning retired officers to active duty, and will give them a compensation somewhat more in keeping with their necessities. The idea that the pecuniary necessities of an officer can be reduced one-half by the mere act of his retirement, is a pleasant little fiction of law, to which these officers cannot accommodate themselves without great inconvenience and even distress.

THE new appointment of Representatives in Congress by which the number of Congressional Districts are increased, will add forty cadets to the Military Academy, and the same number to the Naval Academy.

WE call attention to the meeting of the Cavalry Society which meets in Cleveland, on the 8th of May next. This was originally a society composed of officers and enlisted men of the Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Potomac, organized in July 1869. In the words of the constitution of the Society, its object was "the promotion of kindly feeling, the revival of old associations, and the collection and preservation of records of the services rendered by this corps during the 'War of the Rebellion.'" At the last meeting of the Society, at Boston, May 1871, it was proposed to enlarge the Society to make it include the officers and men of all the United States cavalry, and in pursuance of this design the title was changed to the "Society of the Cavalry Corps of the Armies of the United States." The meeting in May will be the first one held under the new order of things, and an opportunity will be afforded to the troopers and rough riders of the war to meet and compare notes of the whole face of the country fought over, east and west, north and south. The Army organizations formed up to the present time have been limited to corps and single armies. This is the first attempt to unite the whole body of any special arm, and we congratulate the Society on the happy thought. It will be rare enjoyment to meet troopers who know every inch of our whole country and to hear reminiscences of skirmishes, scouts, raids, and hard riding and fighting, along the whole of the Union line from the Potomac to the Gulf. General Sheridan is the president of the Society, and the secretary Major G. I. Whitehead, to whom communications in regard to the meeting may be addressed at No. 29 Nassau street, New York.

REPRESENTATIVE GRIFFITH has introduced a bill in the House, providing for the payment to Brevet Brigadier-General B. S. Roberts (retired) of a royalty upon every Allen or Springfield breech-loading rifle, musket, or carbine manufactured in the United States armories since September 23, 1862, and also a royalty upon all taper-shaped metallic cartridges manufactured by the government since October 1, 1866. Provision is made in the bill, however, that General Roberts shall make over to the United States the right of use hereafter to his patents on small breech-loading fire-arms, and machine for tapering metallic cartridges.

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PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE ARMY.

BREVET-COLONEL W. R. PRICE, U. S. A., Major of the Eighth Cavalry, has submitted to the House Military Committee an interesting paper, setting forth a plan for increasing the efficiency and improving the morale of the army, and preventing desertions. It adopts the system of localization of regiments, which is a part of Mr. CARDWELL's plan for the re-organization of the British Army, but with modifications to adapt it to the peculiarities of the military service of this country. Colonel PRICE says: "In my opinion there should be some organized system of rotation of service for the regiments of the respective arms of cavalry and infantry. The battery being their unit of organization, it is not essential for the artillery. I therefore suggest the following:

"1st. The consolidation of regiments once in five years at rendezvous in the Atlantic States, or Mississippi Valley.

"2d. The regiments to be brigaded on paper for purposes of record in rotation.

"3d. Enlistments to be conducted by regiments for the purposes of localization and preventing desertions.

"4th. The rendezvous to be in districts where troops are now stationed and needed."

We are not able to give in full the arguments presented in support of these recommendations, but make the following extracts:

"1st. Each regiment should be withdrawn from the far plains and frontier stations, be consolidated, and go into ordinary at least once in five years, at some designated point in the Atlantic States, for the purposes of drill, recruiting, establishing a cohesion in the companies, and an esprit de corps in the regiment, and otherwise advancing the efficiency of their respective arms. . . . A periodical consolidation is the only method of creating any regimental pride. Officers become acquainted with each other, a uniform method of drill is established, junior officers profit by the experience of their seniors. Questions arise, are discussed and decided affecting matters of drill and discipline. Any differences of feeling among officers are adjusted. The tone of the regiment is elevated, and the character and efficiency, or the want of it, of the different officers becomes known. Officers and men have an opportunity of seeing their regimental colors, and of hearing their regimental band. Transfers of officers from one company to another, to create harmony and congeniality and insure efficiency can then be made. Regimental drill, which is now impossible, can be had, and all the officers become familiar with it. . . .

"2d. For the purposes of rotation and interchange, the regiments should be known on paper as brigades of three or four regiments each, and these to follow an invariable order of rotation by which each of the regiments, out of five years or sixty months, would spend fifteen or twenty months in changing station, recruiting and staying at the central rendezvous; and from forty to forty-five months at such points as their services may be most required in any portion of the country.

"3d. Enlistments should be conducted exclusively by regiments, and the terms of service of all the men in each regiment should commence as nearly

as possible on the same date. On the arrival of a regiment at the central rendezvous, all the officers and all the men who have re-enlisted, or who express an intention of doing so, should be sent to their homes to recruit for their own companies; other men should be given a furlough of thirty to sixty days. I believe this to be the only system of localization practicable and efficient for all purposes. The three company officers would be held responsible for and deeply interested in the character and kind of men they enlisted. Many of the old men would re-enlist, after a short furlough, and induce good men of their acquaintance to join their company. The recruits would hear and know something of the character and reputation of the officers and regiment in which they were enlisted to serve. The officers of the different companies would vie with each other in securing the finest looking and best body of men; they would endeavor to enlist men who had some ties, family connections, or known antecedents in their community. It would tend to make the officers more vigilant in performing this duty, and caring for and protecting their men while in the field, as their soldierly reputation would be known and reported at their homes. It would give to the regular service that support, in a limited degree, which proved so beneficial to the volunteer forces during the war, and foster a feeling of friendship rather than animosity to the regular army. Of men so enlisted, with the knowledge that they would do nothing but soldierly duty in a pleasant place for at least a year, and that their severe field service would be but three years and a half, there would be few or no desertions. . . .

The regiment should receive no recruits but at the place of rendezvous. The present general service recruiting could be abolished. If the men have been recruited within, say two or three months of each other, their terms will all expire about the same time, and just before this takes place, they should be relieved by the full regiment with which they rotate, and be returned to their central rendezvous. The casualties during that time would not exceed 10 per cent., unless in case of an epidemic or some unusual cause.

"4th. The central rendezvous should be in districts in which troops are now stationed and needed, at some strategic point contiguous to a railroad centre, whence they could receive supplies economically, and be sent in case of an emergency to any point at which their services might be required. Say one or two on the lakes for the protection of the Canadian border, one at some central point in New York or Pennsylvania, one near Richmond, one near Nashville or Chattanooga, one in the Carolinas, one near Mobile or New Orleans, at points where there are now sufficient buildings and accommodations."

The reasons for adopting the proposed system are sound in the main, but it needs to be carefully considered in all of its bearings before being finally determined upon, as it unquestionably will be. The apparent increased expense it would entail is an argument against it which will appeal strongly to our economical legislators, who are not as a rule sufficiently intelligent in matters of army administration to realize the truly economical advantages resulting from the improvement of an army in discipline and esprit de corps.

Another proposition shortly to be submitted to Congress, is one to open promotion in the line of the army to subalterns as well as to officers of and above the grade of Captain. The movement for this change originates with the officers at Fort Leavenworth, who recently met and adopted a petition to Congress which received the signature of all the officers at that post, and at department headquarters, and has since been sent to many of the army posts for signature, and will be sent to all. In the petition is attached a tabular statement showing the unequal operation of the present system of promotion by regiments. From this it appears that of the twenty-four first lieutenants of infantry who have become captains since January 1, 1863, all but three were promoted over officers in the other branches of the service who ranked them. Four were ranked by seventy-three officers, one by one hundred and fifty-five, and one by one hundred and seventy-four. In fact, out of fifty-two officers specified in the list

forty-nine were ranked by an average of thirty officers each. It is neither to the credit of the officers promoted, nor to the discredit of those passed over, but simply the operation of a law which in its working produces unfair and injurious results.

The grounds upon which the petition is based are first the justice of the proposed change, of which there cannot well be any question. The promoters point out that "the subalterns of the cavalry, artillery and infantry are alone, of all the land and naval forces of the United States, either in the Adjutant-General's, Inspector-General's, Quartermaster's, Subsistence and Medical Departments, Corps of Engineers, Ordnance Department, Navy and Marine Corps, and including captains and field officers of the line, excluded from every casualty in their particular arm of service." They further say that if it is argued that the surviving officers of a regiment in which, from unusually severe service, many vacancies occur, should have the benefit of that service, this is equally true of the higher grades, and in short that there is no reason for singling out the subalterns for a special method of promotion. The remaining grounds are that the proposed change would benefit the Army at large, and that it would lessen the cost of regimental changes. We agree with them that the operation of general instead of special promotion would tend to improve the spirit of the Army, and would immeasurably increase the interests and hopes of the officers concerned. It would give a fairer distribution of the honors and burdens of the service, and would not give rise to changes, numerous enough to lessen the personal influence of officers with their commands. In our small army, not amounting to more than two corps of a more extensive service, casualties do not occur rapidly enough to alter the composition of regiments in less than a considerable number of years. The petition points out that captains remain in their regiments ten or twelve years, and a similar term, only lessened by the proportionately greater number of casualties, in the larger list of subalterns might be looked for among the latter. As to expense, the petitioners think it could be made less than now, by announcing the promotions every six months, and then assigning the changing officers to those regiments which are nearest their previous station. Whether this expedient is adopted or not, we do not see why a real improvement in the machinery of the Army should be denied for a slight additional expense. The petitioners make out a good case, and we hope they will have a fair hearing.

THE latest addition to the British iron-clad fleet is the *Rupert*, a heavily armored ram. She, with the *Hotspur* was designed by Mr. REED, for the special work of attack by running down the enemy, and for the use of the heaviest metal that could be placed on shipboard. For fighting at such close quarters the thickest armor was evidently necessary, and for operating as a ram great speed was equally demanded. But these two qualities could be combined only on a comparatively small vessel. Accordingly the *Rupert* has a length of 250 feet, a width of 53 feet, and a burden of 3,159 tons, dimensions that prohibit the employment of more than two of the 18-ton guns for which she is designed. Her side plating consists of 12-inch armor, reaching five feet below and two feet above the water line, and has behind it a foot of teak and an inner skin 1 1/4 inch thick. Above the water rises an elliptical breastwork, also plated with 12-inch armor, and covering about two-thirds of the vessel's deck. Above this is the revolving turret, with its guns 11 feet above the water line, where they can be used in rough weather. The peculiarity of the *Rupert* consists in her spear-shaped ram, with its point projecting ten or twelve feet from the perpendicular line of the bow, and lying about eight feet below the water level. Her engines are nominally of 700-horse power, with twin screws, and are expected to give her a speed of twelve knots an hour. She has two light masts, with a few fore-and-aft sails, intended to serve as an auxiliary to the steam power. The *Hotspur*, companion to the *Rupert*, differs from her in having a fixed turret containing one 25-ton gun, mounted on a turntable, and supplemented by two 64-pounders on the after deck.

Naval warfare has not yet presented us with a combat in which any of the great rams, built for crushing their antagonist out of sight, were used. In our own war there were many examples of bold ramming by ordinary ships, as witness the *Sassacus* and the *Albemarle*, and the fights in the harbor of Mobile and the bay of Lissa will be ever memorable for similar acts. From these occurrences we may estimate the value of such ships as the *Rupert* and *Hotspur* in harbor defence, and in the meeting of hostile squadrons. These vessels are peculiarly valuable, too, in respect to the struggle for supremacy between the gun and the armor plate, for in that rivalry they are *hors concours*. Whether the victory lies with the gun or the armor plate, vessels of this kind will be practically unconquerable by gun fire, for those shots that immediately destroy a vessel's power to move are comparatively rare, and while the ram can move she can injure and destroy, whatever becomes of her upper works.

THE testimony in the French Arms business has been quite uninteresting this week, and nothing of real importance has been developed except by the Marquis of CHAMBRUN, whose evidence showed that he had been busy in the affair for about a year, constantly seeing Government officers and Senators; and, also, that he worked either in the interest or for the revenge of VICTOR PLACE. This gentleman, who was French Consul in New York during the war with Germany, did not keep himself sufficiently clear of the seductive profits of the arms sales, and has been punished for what his Government chose to consider irregularities. The Marquis of CHAMBRUN, who had known PLACE since 1858, interested himself in the troubles of the Consul, but in following up the investigation business, which he has done with great persistence, he was unable to enlist the French legation in the work. CHAMBRUN's testimony shows pretty clearly that the whole of this disgraceful attempt to dishonor the American Government grows out of the frantic efforts of a criminal to escape punishment. The United States have been led to undertake a foolish investigation at great expense, because a convicted employee of a foreign government hoped and believed that so much misdealing would be found among our officers that his own misdemeanors would stand out less strongly. The misconduct, however, has not been proved, and Mr. PLACE and his friend CHAMBRUN have failed in their calculations.

A great deal of pother has been made over the mark placed on the arms, etc., sent to France. It was "R. F.," and is variously interpreted République Française, Remington Fils, and regulation fusil (!) We suggest Ridiculous Fuss, which is quite as *apropos* as any of the others. It is disingenuous of Mr. SCHURZ to treat this subject as if it were of any importance. Trade-marks are arbitrary things chosen for the sake of abbreviation, and the Ordnance officers had no more interest in what R. F. meant than they had in any other private detail of the business of their purchasers. Q. C. may stand for Queen's Council or Queer Case, or anything else, but used as a trade-mark, it would merely mean that all packages bearing that mark belong to one invoice or to one series of shipments. It is a matter to be dealt with by clerks, not by Ordnance officers, Senators, or Presidents.

WE fear that the order to Generals SHERIDAN and AUGUR, directing them to use extraordinary efforts to put down Mexican marauders, will hardly accomplish the overthrow of a system of plundering which rests upon the inactivity of the Mexican Government or the connivance of its officers, unless the scouting parties are authorized to follow the thieves upon Mexican soil. At present the time necessary to get news of a raid to the nearest Army post, and put the troops on the trail, is just about enough to let the Mexicans get to the river. But they arrive there exhausted by a long forced march, day and night, and a few hours more of pursuit would in many cases effect their capture. Without this authority we fear the commanders in Texas will be able to do but little.

A FULL account of the obsequies of General ANDERSON will be found in the columns devoted to the National Guard. Many of his old comrades of

Fort Sumter united in the mournful ceremonies of his final burial, and business was suspended in the Department of the East during the entire day.

GENERAL HUMPHREY MARSHALL, who was born January 13, 1812, in Frankfort, Ky., died March 28, 1872, at Louisville, at the age of sixty. He was the grandson of HUMPHREY MARSHALL, the author of the first published history of Kentucky, and son of Judge JOHN J. MARSHALL, a nephew of the great Chief-Justice of the United States Supreme Court. His mother was the only sister of JAMES G. BIRNEY, years since the candidate of the "liberal party" for President of the United States.

At the age of sixteen, MARSHALL was appointed a cadet in the U. S. Military Academy, from which he was graduated July 1, 1832, and promoted in the Army to be brevet third lieutenant of Mounted Rangers. He was immediately ordered on the "Black Hawk Expedition," but was not engaged in active hostilities, being stationed at Davenport, Minn. March 4, 1833, he was transferred as brevet second lieutenant, to the First Dragoons, which regiment had just been created by Congress in lieu of the Mounted Rangers. Soon after, April 30, 1833, he resigned from the military service.

Preferring civil life, he, in a few months with marked facility, acquired sufficient legal knowledge to be admitted to the bar. Till 1834 he practised his new profession at Frankfort, Ky., and then at Louisville, till the breaking out of the Mexican War. At the same time he was an officer of Kentucky militia, as captain, 1836-'38; major, 1838-'41; and lieutenant-colonel, 1841-'46. In 1836 he raised a company of volunteers to march to our Texas frontier, which, however, was disbanded after receiving the news of General HOUSTON's victory at San Jacinto.

June 9, 1846, he became colonel of the First Kentucky Cavalry, and with his regiment marched from Memphis, Tenn., to join the army of General TAYLOR at Saltillo, which he reached in time to participate in the battle of Buena Vista. His regiment having been disbanded July 7, 1847, he returned to his native State, and settled on a farm in Henry county, where he continued to reside till 1861, except while in public life.

In 1849, he was elected to the U. S. House of Representatives; became at once an active member and an ardent supporter of CLAY's compromise measures of 1850; and in 1851 was re-elected to Congress. During his second term, he was appointed by President FILLMORE, August 6, 1852, commissioner of the United States to the empire of China, which was immediately raised to a first-class mission. On being recalled by President PIERCE, October 18, 1852, he resumed the practice of law at Washington, D. C.; but in 1855 was again elected to Congress from Kentucky by the "Know-nothing" party, where he continued till 1859, serving during his latter term, as a member of the Committee on Military Affairs.

Though, in 1861, opposed to open secession of the Southern States, and desirous to settle differences with "peaceable weapons," within the Union, he nevertheless joined in the Rebellion against the United States, and became a brigadier-general September, 1861, in the rebel service. Here he gained little reputation, and upon resigning his commission opened a law office in Richmond, Va., and subsequently removed to Louisville, where his practice became both successful and lucrative. He was among the first of the rebels whose disabilities were removed by Congress.

General MARSHALL was obese in person, self-indulgent, careless in his habits, and somewhat regardless of social conventionalities; but he possessed an active temperament, winning, jovial manners, and many generous instincts, which endeared him to his friends. He had a large brain as well as a large body; was a ready and vigorous speaker; a fluent and forcible writer; a lawyer of great acquirements and high repute; and enjoyed a distinguished and enviable reputation in his native State. Though educated for a soldier, he wisely abandoned military life for the arena of civil strife, where his tongue and pen gained him greener laurels than his sword would probably have ever won.

G. W. C.

PRESIDENT Grant, accompanied by General Horace Porter, arrived, at 7 A. M., Wednesday, April 3, at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, where he was met by his wife, and daughter Miss Nellie Grant. The object of his visit was to see his daughter safely on board the Cunard steamship *Algeria* for a European tour, in which she is to be accompanied by ex-Secretary Adolph W. Borie and family.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

LINE AND STAFF.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: When will people learn to let well enough alone, and when will the line cease its futile endeavors against the staff? There is no hope of advantage to them in this contest, as a glance at the situation will plainly show, and why continue a contest which will result in advantage to no one? The staff have the heads of bureaus always on the spot to look after its interests, and staff officers generally are located at the great political centres where they can act most effectively in shaping legislation for the Army. The line, on the contrary, are stationed at remote posts, and not having much taste for such business, can with more advantage leave the management of their interests to the staff, who understand it quite as well and even manage it far better. But for a restless few who insist upon managing matters for themselves, and representing their own views of the public interests, everything would be peace and harmony. Intelligent line officers would be occasionally selected for appointments to positions in the Paymaster's, Quartermaster's and Adjutant-General's Departments, and thus it is thought would provide for all officers of that class which the line would produce if the present staff organization be kept up.

It was to be expected that the line would be reduced as the exigencies of the public service might require, but this furnishes no reason for reducing the staff, which should remain essentially the same in peace as in war, and being composed of officers of great intelligence, who take a pride in these departments, the country cannot afford to lose them. The interests of the public service should be alone considered in this matter. By keeping always on hand so large a corps of intelligent and carefully trained gentlemen, in the event of war there would be no lack of intelligence. All orders and instructions necessary for the line could be readily issued, and while armed hands fight abroad, advised heads defend themselves at home.

Congress should carefully husband this intelligence of the staff. As there is no great genius entirely free from madness, the danger to be apprehended from any measure looking to a contraction, is that madness might become epidemic where so much intelligence is spread over so little ground. This should be carefully looked into, and ample room made for any unlooked-for development of intelligent staff officers. In order that their intelligence may have free scope, and that they may feel the responsibility of their positions, they should be left untrammelled and free from military restraint or control. Such line officers as Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Thomas, Hancock and Schofield, though distinguished soldiers in their way, are not believed to have intelligent ideas upon subjects appertaining to the staff, and should not be permitted to have any control over them. It is to be hoped that the line will take this view of the subject and let us have peace.

PACIFIC.

THE NAPOLEON GUN.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: It is my impression that "Volunteer Cavalryman" has forgotten the ground taken by himself in his original communication, and I admit that I am not sorry, after his confession that he had neglected to read the JOURNAL for about two months. In every controversy the contestants must stick to their premises.

If this rule is followed in the present case, I believe that the argument between my friend "Volunteer Cavalryman" and myself will turn out to be simply a version of the "golden and silver shield."

I understood that "Volunteer Cavalryman" was an admirer and defender of the light 12-pounder or Napoleon gun, and I endeavored to the best of my ability to prove to him that this piece had outlived its usefulness.

This is my "case" in a nutshell. I did not compare the "12 lb. canister of 27 balls with that of the 3.50 rifled gun;" on the contrary I asked "Volunteer Cavalryman" whether he would do so, in case we replaced the former by the latter.

I maintain that I have logically established my conclusions against the light 12-pounder, if I can show that there are other weapons, more mobile and more effective, call them what you will, 3.50 in. rifles, Springfield breech-loaders, Gatling revolvers, that fully replace this 12-14 cwt. piece.

I believe that I have done this, and it occurs to me further that "Volunteer Cavalryman" admits it. Yet after this admission, "Volunteer Cavalryman," at the close of his rejoinder, "returns to his wethers," and demands "brass guns" for close work.

Very well! but why retain the Napoleon gun, whose merits we are discussing. Would not the mountain howitzer, also a 12-pounder but weighing over 1,000 lbs. less, answer his purpose for close canister practice equally well? Or why not take the 24-pounder howitzer of about the same weight as the light 12-pounder, yet with about twice its "canister capacity?"

I cannot believe that "Volunteer Cavalryman" means to apply his severe remarks concerning the weight of authority to me, for I certainly hurried no German or other dictionaries at his head.

My friend claimed to be well read on light artillery. I merely hinted that possibly some of the latest foreign works, meaning English and French especially, might have escaped his attention.

With "Volunteer Cavalryman," I consider that the only "authoritative" authority is crucial experience; and can we not apply this test to the point in dispute.

In regard to the range of fighting, our views probably differ, but that is not the question at issue. Able pens and mighty swords have already answered "Volunteer Cavalryman."

I must iterate my former assertion that "Volunteer Cavalryman," is the ideal *beau sabreur*, whom the "Old Shekarry" had in view when he wrote last year: "In the present day, now that armies rarely fight at close quarters, but with deadly weapons of precision at long ranges, physical force is not so much a *sine quâ non* in an efficient trooper as it was in the old day before that horrid gunpowder was invented, and combats were decided by personal prowess, *avec les armes blanches*, lances, swords, battle-axes, etc., still there are occasions in a *mêlée*, for instance, when a muscular biceps is a powerful auxiliary and "a mighty blessing," as those who rode at Balaclava can testify;" the *sabreur* who still believes that battles are to be decided by the *choc* of steeds and the clash of sabres, and who consequently has not a very high idea of the "far-reaching" modern artillery. Little birds even whisper that one of the greatest of all modern *sabreurs* considers artillery of very little use when the contestants "mean business."

Will "Volunteer Cavalryman" pardon me if, for a moment, I encroach on his preserves, and, even at the risk of instant *hâri kari* by his sharpened sabre, say a word in reply to his attack on the German cavalry?

Years ago Louis Nolan, a *sabreur sans tache*, wrote of cavalry that "it must ever be the eyes, ears, feelers, and feeders of the army." In our war this idea was certainly fully carried out.

The "Old Shekarry," a countryman of Nolan's, and also a *sabreur*, in speaking of the "Services of Cavalry in Modern Warfare," says: "The enormous range, power, and continuous rapidity of fire of the arms of precision of modern infantry has done away with all chance of deciding a battle by cavalry charges; for in the present day cavalry can never act offensively against infantry *en masse*, unless the men have lost morale, and become disorganized by the fire of artillery."

"Volunteer Cavalrymen" tells us that he has searched in vain for "real" cavalry work during the late war! I blush that a countryman of the historian of Hans Breitmann's career should thus place himself on record! Has he never read of the exploits of that doughty Uhlan?

The current number (March) of Fraser's Magazine, edited, as your readers all know, by the historian, John Anthony Froude, contains an article on the Franco-Prussian war, which I recommend that you give in *extenso* in the JOURNAL.

Concerning cavalry the author writes as follows:

"It is doubtful whether in men and horses the French cavalry did not excel the German. But in the use of this important arm the French seem to have followed carelessly the obsolete traditions of former wars; they employed their cavalry in fruitless charges on unshaken infantry with modern small arms, and they did not engage it in sufficient force in outpost duty and reconnoitering."

"The German chiefs, on the other hand, appreciated fully one of the great tasks of cavalry in covering and exploring the advance of armies. The exploits of the Uhlans in the campaign have been narrated by many witnesses; and in this way they made good use of their masses of horsemen, though in 1870 they seem not to have had a great cavalry general. The result was that the French cavalry was too often thrown away and sacrificed, while the German performed admirable service in baffling and surprising the enemy. The 'staff officer of the Army of the Rhine' says on this subject:

"The instruction given in peace time to our cavalry had certainly not prepared it to perform satisfactorily the duty of reconnoitering; and though its elements were very good, it was deficient in this particular. On every occasion when it was engaged in the field it fought with the greatest vigor and energy; but in outpost duty and making reconnaissances it was decidedly inferior to the Prussian cavalry, and very inefficient." O. E. M. WATERTOWN ARSENAL, March 30th, 1872.

THE MARINE CORPS.

We publish the main portion of a letter addressed by an officer of the Marine Corps to a member of the House Naval Committee, presenting very forcibly the claims of the corps to recognition and respect. We may add that the measure against which he argues has been defeated in Congress.

I am in receipt of your communication of the 15th inst., and in complying with the expressed desire that you "would be pleased to receive such data as I can conveniently collect in regard to the Marine Corps," I have the pleasure of submitting the following facts and figures, collected out of the mass that might be brought forward in support of this organization.

Only a few days since, Mr. Morgan (Ohio) introduced into the House of Representatives a bill "to abolish the Marine Corps," which, after the second reading, was referred to the committee (naval) of which you are a member.

The act of Congress approved July 25, 1862, fixed the strength of the Corps, rank and file, at 3,026—this by order of the Secretary of the Navy; and from other circumstances has been reduced so that we now number only about 2,400. This Corps was organized by an act of Congress approved November 9, 1775, and has had a continued existence since that date, being the oldest military organization in our country.

We find the Marines bearing a conspicuous part on shore in the war for our Independence, the war of 1812, the Florida War, the war in Tripoli, the Mexican War, and in the recent Rebellion. At sea, portions of this Corps have taken an active part in every naval engagement in which our ships-of-war have borne a part. As a portion of our military establishment stationed in our large cities, it has been called upon to suppress riots and disorders in Washington, New York, and Boston. But for its assistance and timely aid at the hour when the convicts in the Charlestown (Mass.) State Prison rose *en masse*, overcame their guards and keepers, and were

carrying everything before them, that city would have been shocked at the deeds of murder, arson, and untold crimes that would have visited it.

In enabling the internal revenue officers to execute the laws of the land, and in maintaining order and quiet at the election polls in New York and Philadelphia, it has called forth from the powers now in authority in Washington their thanks and approbation.

The duties of marines at our Navy-yards consists in guarding the large amount of Government stores and property therein contained, and at the same time furnishes at any moment a force of disciplined troops for any duty requiring the power of the bayonet. There is no reason why any other than marines should be employed at Navy-yards to guard and protect them; they are more economical, more efficient, and more reliable than watchmen, three marines being supported at the same expense required to keep one watchman.

In the English, Russian, Austrian, Spanish, and Italian navies, marines form a part; and in the French, where all are so thoroughly imbued with a military spirit, sailors, specially drilled and disciplined at Toulon, are detailed for, and perform, the same duties aboard a French man-of-war that an English or American marine does aboard his ship. Our service is composed largely of foreigners, the average being one American to about twenty-four of other nationalities, while in other navies the average is about seventeen of their own countrymen to one foreigner. A ship about going into commission has sent aboard her sailors and marine guard, the latter forming the only disciplined and organized force then aboard. While aboard ship the marines are drilled at the great guns, and in all cases of action assist in fighting them side by side with the sailors. Beside this, they are the police, the infantry of the ship; guarding the magazines, the lights, fires, and the prisoners.

Admiral Farragut, Admiral Porter, Admiral Turner (then captain commanding *New Ironsides*), Admiral Winslow (then commanding the *Kearsarge*), have all placed letters on file in the Navy Department which fully sustain this branch of the service in their reputation for efficiency and discipline. Captain De Camp states, without hesitation, "that but for the services of the marine guard, the *Wabash* when she was ashore off Cape Fear in October, 1863, would have been a total wreck. They then went aloft and loosed and furlled; they manned the boats, and got out anchors, and performed duties of which sailor or marine may well be proud."

The expense of sustaining the Corps is about \$1,200,000. Where can you elsewhere find in our country twenty-five hundred effective, well-drilled, and well-disciplined men whose duties are more varied, more unceasing, and that cost the Government as little to maintain?

If you will call before the committee of which you are a member, and before which you now have for consideration this bill of Mr. Morgan's, officers of the Navy in whose judgment and experience you have confidence, and ask them, not only as to the efficiency of the Marine Corps, but if it is not absolutely indispensable to the well being of the Navy, I feel assured that you will receive a mass of testimony in favor of this Corps, such as will end for ever this proposed abolition. The following extracts from letters of distinguished naval officers will give you an idea of the standing in which this Corps is held by them. [Here follow extracts of letters from Admirals Paulding, Farragut, and Porter, which we omit.—ED. JOURNAL.]

I will not ask your attention any further as to the opinion of officers who have expressed themselves upon this subject. Your attention is respectfully called to the report of the Naval Committee of the House, made February 21, 1867, in which the Corps receives their endorsement and recommendation.

That reforms are needed in the Corps we admit, and hope ere long to have such legislation at your hands as will assist in correcting any abuses that may have crept in.

ROSSEL'S ART OF WAR.

FROM France has just been received Rosset's "Abrégé de l'Art de la Guerre," etc., etc., Prison of Versailles, August-September, 1871, a work of more military merit than almost any one of equal size penned since the Emperor Leo wrote his wonderful compendium, nearly 1100 years ago. It is impossible to refrain from translating poor Rosset's preface—Rosset, taken from his cell at Versailles, where his *Abrégé* was written, to be wretchedly and unjustly shot, when, had there been one ray of mercy in the bosom of old Thiers, Rosset, pardoned, might have lived to become one of the brightest military ornaments of reconstructed, free France. It is said that he was executed because he, if spared, was likely to become too important as a republican leader for the retrograde tendencies of the aspirants to supreme power in France.

The decay, says Rosset, of the military art in France, dates from Napoleon I. This genius, complete and jealous, wishing no rivals, formed no pupils. When the republican general transformed himself in to Emperor, an ingrate towards the army, he proscribed instinctive individuality (*spontanéité*), and required nothing but obedience. This was equivalent to disowning his origin, to drying up the source of his grandeur. With an army which was only obedient and valorous, Bonaparte would have perished before Mantua; would have perished at Marengo, leaving behind him only an uncertain glory.

To the Republican Army succeeded the Grand Army, whose magnificent successes concealed the defects which destroyed it. With its creation this grand body was infected with a mortal malady. The supply of officers was not provided for.

The Grand Army made its first campaign towards the close of 1805, and already in 1806 Napoleon was short of officers. It was in vain that he incorporated the youth of the High Schools (*Lycees*) in the ranks of his non-commissioned officers; it was in vain that he cut

short the course of studies in the schools generally. The cadres (skeleton staffs) exhausted or used up, were constantly empty. Officers, over age, had to be retained, and individuals, inexperienced or as yet not up to the work, had to be promoted to the higher ranks. Such was the situation in 1806, 1807, 1808 and 1809. At a later date the evils must have augmented beyond measure.

Doubtless an endless war, entailing an immense consumption of men, occasioned in a degree this exhaustion, but a still greater cause (as should be observed) was the false direction given to the military spirit by the Imperial policy—by the yoke which it imposed upon character, abasing ordinary characters, accepting the servile, showing jealousy toward, and banishing the strong, who alone are fit for command. This fatal pressure of despotism weighed infallibly on every rank, from lowest to highest, and even upon the soldier; but there is one fact by which its effects manifested themselves unmistakably—in the absolute deficiency of generals—issue of the Imperial epoch.

It is profoundly instructive to perceive after 1813 the despot at war with the results of his despotism. He would be alone, he was alone; he would have no rivals, he had no lieutenants; wherever he was not, his generals lost ground. To dare anything in war a commander must be independent. How is it possible for any one to engage in a contest which always involves evil chances, if he is accustomed to derive inspiration from the thought of a master, to grow arrogant in his favor, and to grovel before his anger?

How can any one expose himself to a defeat when he does not allow his own conscience to be his supreme law, when he considers himself punished by a disfavor, or recompensed by a title or a ribbon? In the fatal campaigns by which he lost his empire, Napoleon was still himself, but every one humbled himself before him. No more manly resolutions, no longer the initiative of inspiration—of courage, yes; of heroism, even yet; but in a sort of leading strings. The general who loses a position, who lets an occasion to conquer escape, who does not profit by a success, entrenches himself behind the letter of his orders; he fears to risk a reverse. The French generals do not fear to die; they already are afraid of displeasing. There were generals to be seen wandering about a field of battle, uncertain whether to obey orders, undecided whether to march to the cannon. If Dessaix had been there, the empire would have been saved; but the empire did not permit a character of this temper. In place of Dessaix, Drouot d'Erlon (Quatrebras—Ligny—Waterloo, 1815?)

"I found him a pigmy, I lost him a giant," said Napoleon at the death of Lannes. Had he not done the same, in inverse sense, with the French nation? He found them giants, he left them pigmies.

Thus the grand movement in military science which had followed the Seven Years' War was stifled by Napoleon, thus it perished enveloped with glory.

In the same manner as Monge and Laplace, as Lavoisier and Fresnel, Bonaparte was the disciple of the great intellectual movement of the 18th century; but thinking to protect, while concealing the springs of his power, he willed that war, a science for him, should be nothing more than a trade for all others. The result was, war became nothing but a trade.

After Napoleon, all the institutions sank slowly into decay. In the regulations, in regard to service and tactics (1831, 1832) everything is well understood and wisely co-ordinated. The practical in details is still preserved, but everything requisite as to harmonious general co-operation is badly comprehended and imperfect: for instance, the reorganized artillery is rendered more costly and more cumbersome under the pretext of simplification. Under the same pretext the creation of the staff-corps and that of the Intendance (Supply Department as contemplated, is the only equivalent translation) are still more disastrous. The higher the institutions in importance, the less are they comprehended by the successors of the Empire. The laws of recruitment lead to instability in the army and permit a ministry, over head and ears in debt, to undo in six months the work of ten years.

Finally, wars are engaged in unadvisedly; the fruits of victory scorned through vain glory or wasted through heedlessness; costly and sterile armaments, conceived all of a sudden, in the military policy, occur at every instant to trouble peace.

In a science of application as rigorous as war, all the constituent parts hang together in an absolute manner. We lost remembrance at first of the politics or policy of war, the science of administration, and that of the staffs; soon strategy was equally forgotten. Armies marched blindfold without reconnoitering, and collided unexpectedly, as at Solferino; tactics were reduced to the individual action of the soldiers, discipline became bankrupt, and the world beheld the Army set out for this campaign (1870) which was to terminate in calamity, famine and captivity.

ANCHOR.

A CORRESPONDENT claims that the Gatling Camel-Gun which was illustrated in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL a few weeks since, is a plagiarism upon an idea of John Phoenix, who tells this story, familiar to Army officers:

But in a certain Western fort, some time ago, the major conceived the idea that artillery might be used effectively in fighting with the Indians by dispensing with gun carriages and fastening the cannon upon the backs of mules. So he explained his views to the commandant, and it was determined to try the experiment. A howitzer was selected and strapped upon an ambulance mule, with the muzzle turned toward the tail. When they had secured the gun, and loaded it with ball cartridge, they led that calm and steadfast mule on the bluff and set up a target in the middle of the river to practice at. The rear of the mule was turned toward the target and he was backed gently up to the edge of the bluff. The officers stood around in a semicircle,

while the major went up and inserted a time fuse in the touchhole of the howitzer. When the fuse was ready the major lighted it and retired.

In a minute or two the hitherto unruffled mule heard the fizzing back there on his neck and it made him uneasy. He reached his head around to ascertain what was going on, and as he did so his body turned, and the howitzer began to sweep around the horizon. The mule at last became excited, and his curiosity grew more and more intense, and in a second or two he was standing with his four legs in a bunch, making six revolutions a minute, and the howitzer, understanding, threatening sudden death to every man within half a mile. The commandant was observed to climb suddenly up a tree; the lieutenants were seen sliding over the bluff into the river, as if they didn't care at all about the high price of uniforms; the adjutant made good time toward the fort; the sergeant began to throw up breastworks with his bayonet, and the major rolled over the ground and groaned. In two or three minutes there was a puff of smoke, a dull thud, and the mule! oh! where was he? A solitary jackass might have been seen turning successive back-somersets over the bluff, only to rest at anchor, finally, with his howitzer, at the bottom of the river, while the ball went off toward the fort, hit the chimney in the major's quarters, rattled the adobe bricks down into the parlor, and frightened the major's wife into convulsions. They do not allude to it now, and no report of the results of the experiment was ever sent to the War Department.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOMESTEAD BILL.

THE following is the text of the bill to enable honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, their widows and orphan children, to acquire homesteads on the public lands of the United States, which has become a law:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every private soldier and officer who has served in the Army of the United States during the recent Rebellion for ninety days, and who was honorably discharged, including the troops mustered into the service of the United States by virtue of the third section of an act entitled "An act making appropriations for completing the defenses of Washington, and for other purposes," approved February 13, 1862, and every seaman, marine, and officer, or other person who has served in the Navy of the United States, or in the Marine Corps, during the Rebellion for ninety days, and who was honorably discharged, has remained loyal to the Government, shall be entitled to enter and receive a certificate for a quantity of public lands (not mineral) not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres, or one quarter-section, which shall be composed of contiguous tracts, according to legal subdivisions, including the alternate reserved sections of public lands along the line of any railroad or other public work, or other lands subject to entry under the homestead laws in the United States, wherever public lands have been or may be granted by acts of Congress; and that said soldier, seaman, marine, or officer, his heirs or assigns, shall be entitled to a patent for said land upon complying with the provisions of an act entitled "An act to secure homesteads upon the public domain," except as provided in this act: *Provided*, That said soldier, seaman, marine, or officer shall be allowed twelve months after his discharge to enter and receive a certificate of entry within twelve months from the date thereof to any citizen of the United States over twenty-one years of age, or person who has declared his intention to become such, who has not previously availed himself of the benefits of the homestead or pre-emption laws, and said assignee shall succeed to all the rights of the said soldier, seaman, marine, or officer; and it may be lawful for such assignee to become the purchaser of certificates to the amount of not more than one section, or six hundred and forty acres of land, but the same shall be contiguous and adjoining, and for the purpose of actual settlement; but no such assignor of a certificate of entry shall thereafter have the right to avail himself of the benefit of this act or the acts heretofore passed granting homesteads to actual settlers, nor shall such assignee have the right to acquire any other homestead under said acts: *Provided, however*, That no patent shall issue to said soldier, seaman, marine, or officer, or his assignee, who has not resided upon, improved, and cultivated his said homestead for a period of at least two years: *And provided further*, That said soldier, seaman, marine, or officer shall be required to pay any Government fee.

SEC. 2. That any person entitled under the provisions of the foregoing section to enter a homestead, who may have heretofore entered under the homestead laws a quantity of land less than one hundred and sixty acres, shall be permitted to enter under the provisions of this act so much land as, when added to the quantity previously entered, shall not exceed one hundred and sixty acres.

SEC. 3. That in case of the death of any person who would be entitled to a homestead under the provisions of the first section of this act, his widow, if unmarried, or in case of her death or marriage, then his minor orphan children, shall be entitled to all the benefits enumerated in this act: *Provided*, That if such person died during his term of enlistment, the whole term of his enlistment shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect the title.

SEC. 4. That every soldier, seaman, marine, and officer who served in the Army or Navy for the said period of ninety days, and is now inscribed on the pension rolls of the United States, or may hereafter be inscribed on said rolls on account of wounds received or disabilities incurred in the line of duty, may, in lieu of the rights, privileges, and benefits heretofore conferred, enter upon, by an agent or attorney, and receive a patent for one quarter-section of land, as provided in section one of this act, and shall be entitled to all the benefits of said first section, and liable to all the provisions thereof, except as to the personal residence; and that all acts and things required to be done by said homestead settler, by said first section may be done by said agent or attorney: *Provided*, That no such agent or attorney shall act as such for more than one person at the same time.

SEC. 5. That all declarations and proofs required under this act and the former acts granting homesteads to actual settlers may be taken before the judge or clerk of any court of record in the United States, or of any State or Territory, and, when duly authenticated under the official seal of such court, shall be of the same force and effect as if taken before the register or receiver of the proper land-office.

SEC. 6. That the Commissioner of the General Land Office shall have authority to make all needful rules and regulations to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

THE following circular has been sent to the members of Congress:

SIR: A bill having been introduced by Senator Ames, which provides "That the line officers of the Volunteer Navy who were put up into the Regular service, shall take rank in their respective grades from July 25, 1866, and be entitled to the positions on the Navy Register that they would have occupied had their commissions been so dated;" we, the officers who will be most injuriously affected by it, should it pass, beg leave to lay before you the following statement, which, we trust, will prevent the injustice that such a measure would inflict.

The clauses on which the officers admitted from the Volunteer service base the above claim are these: (Sections 2 and 3 of the Naval Laws, act of July 25, 1866, inserted here, we omit.—ED. JOURNAL.)

Thus, section 2 merely states the number to be admitted—one hundred and fifty in all; while section 3 specifically defines the

mode of their selection; and in conformity to this section, a board was immediately convened at Hartford, Conn.

Owing to the large number of Volunteer officers to be examined—amounting to several hundred, the distance from which many had to come, they being on foreign stations, and other necessary causes of delay, the board did not complete their labors and make their report until 1868.

And in this report, of the hundreds of claimants examined, not one was recommended for the grade of lieutenant-commander, and for each of the other grades a much smaller number was recommended than that provided for by section 2. The natural inference is, that the qualifications and attainments of the candidates were not adequate to the requirements. Only seventy-five of the candidates were recommended for admission into the Regular service, and these only for the grades of lieutenant, master, and ensign. Accordingly, in 1868, "after examination of the claims of all candidates," as specified in section 3 above quoted, these seventy-five received commissions as had been recommended. The officers admitted as lieutenants were placed above our class in the Navy Register; so were those commissioned as masters, although we held commissions as masters from the 12th of March, 1868; and the ensigns were properly put in below our class.

Now, these ensigns (at present lieutenants)—twenty-eight in number—claim that they should have rank from July 25, 1866, and be advanced above our class. Why? Simply because the act that provided for their admission was approved on that day! But that act also provided that the board, after examination of the claims of all candidates, shall select and report to the Secretary of the Navy the most meritorious in ability, etc.; two very essential requisites, we consider, first, that of examining all the Volunteer officers; and, secondly, that of selecting from these the most meritorious before the third provision of the act—that of commissioning them—could be carried out.

Now the first two of these were not complied with until 1868; how could the third be carried out before?

And to antedate the commissions of these ensigns now to the commissions of our class, who were then masters, and who had been commissioned ensigns in 1866—to place these gentlemen, who during the period of examination were fluctuating in the balance with hundreds of others above us, who, during the same period, were doing duty at sea with the fixed ranks of master and ensign, seems to us a most preposterous demand.

But aside from all the foregoing, which we present merely as reasons for not advancing now ahead of our class, the twenty-eight ensigns put in after us in 1868, and the justice and force of which reasons we submit for your consideration, but which we are perfectly willing to ignore and withdraw that they may not influence your judgment in the slightest, we now claim by an act of Congress of 1862 that we are by legal right in our proper place in the Navy Register. The clause of the act, which we quote as follows, is so strong and explicit as to remove all doubt from the matter:

SEC. 11. That the students at the Naval Academy shall be styled midshipmen, and until their final graduating examination, when, if successful, they shall be commissioned ensigns, ranking according to merit." (Act of July 16, 1862.)

This states positively that until the graduating examination the students shall be styled midshipmen, when, if successful, they shall be commissioned ensigns; or, in other words, the day following their final examination, they were midshipmen no longer, but should receive commissions as ensigns.

This act was passed in 1862, and to prove that the interpretation we state is the true one, the next class that graduated at the Academy, that of '63, received commissions immediately as ensigns.

Our class graduated in 1865. Section 11 of the act of 1862, above quoted, was then in force. We should, therefore, have been commissioned ensigns on the day following that on which we graduated; but we were not, nor were we promoted to ensigns until more than a year afterward, namely, in December, 1866.

Now, we say, give the officers who were put in after our class the full benefit of the law of 1866—place them above us; then mete similar justice to us by carrying out the clear, unequivocal section 11 of the act of 1862, to the fulfillment of which we are most assuredly entitled, in any event, and then we will in turn be placed above them. Thus it is evident that both parties, our class and the Volunteer officers placed after us, occupy relatively our proper places on the Navy Register; and the only change effected by giving each the benefit of the laws we make our respective claims under, would be, that in the case of the Volunteer officers their ensigns' commissions would date from 1866 instead of 1868, while those of our class would date from 1865 instead of 1866—a full year previous to any legislation whatever with respect to the admission of the Volunteer officers.

Believing that Senator Ames's bill could pass Congress only through a want of information on the foregoing facts, we, as representatives of a class of forty-two members who graduated at the U. S. Naval Academy in 1865, have the honor to subscribe ourselves your obedient servants.

Signed by T. A. Lyons, J. E. Craig, B. L. Edes, E. B. Thomas, J. S. Newell, C. M. Thomas, R. B. Bradford, F. M. Barber, E. L. Amory, R. D. Hitchcock, and W. H. Brownson, lieutenants U. S. Navy.

THE grand volunteer military review took place at Brighton, England, April 1, in accordance with the programme previously announced. Immense crowds witnessed the manoeuvres, which were conducted on a large scale, and were rendered more than usually interesting by a rehearsal of the "Battle of Dorking." The troops in the field, including some twenty thousand volunteers, were divided into two armies, one of invasion and the other of defence. The enemy was supposed to have effected a landing in Shoreham harbor. The movement commenced with an attack on the village and its capture after an obstinate resistance. The invaders then advanced on Brighton, and, after repulsing a body of troops, took up a defensive position. The army of defence, being largely reinforced, took the offensive under General Horsford, and attacked the invaders with success, although the latter broke through Horsford's right centre and created great confusion for a while. The firing ceased at one o'clock, both sides having been impartially beaten. The mock fight was succeeded by the march past, which was not satisfactory. The review, on the whole, is considered a failure. The weather was fine, although there were occasional showers, and the air fresh and bracing.

THE Second Controller has made a decision affirming the decision of the Secretary of the Interior, made January 19 last, to the effect that disabled soldiers enlisted in the general service, and detailed on clerical duty in the War Department are entitled not only to pay as enlisted men but to pensions.

DR. Mary E. Walker wants \$10,000 from the conscience fund as a remuneration for her services in the hospitals during the war, and Representative Lansing has introduced a bill to pay her that amount.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

THE following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

ARMY.

MARCH 29.

Barnes, A. D., Colonel.	Pope, A., Captain.
Berkley, E. K., Colonel.	Reeder, F. M., Major.
Offat, H. St. G., Colonel.	Wright, B. F., Captain.

APRIL 2.

Burbergh, John, Colonel—2.	Harn, K. H., Captain.
Gandy, Ogden, Captain.	Hunt, H. H., Captain.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THE ANDERSON OBSEQUIES.—On Wednesday the final military honors and tribute were given to the remains of that gallant and conspicuous soldier, the late Brigadier-General Robert Anderson, U. S. Army. The career and past history of this officer are still fresh in the minds of the American public; and the obituary remarks given in the columns of the JOURNAL at the time of the demise of the deceased renders it unnecessary for us at this time and occasion to again state the merits of this distinguished American soldier. We will therefore briefly pursue the details of the great military display given on the occasion of the transfer of the remains to their final resting-place, West Point.

Nothing, perhaps, is more impressive than the "pomp and circumstance" of a military funeral. The quiet assembling of armed men, the roll of the muffled drums, the solemn and musical strains of the bands, the slow and measured "common-time" step, the draping of the colors, and the crape on the arm are all evidences of a solemn event to the quiet lookers-on. Thus it was on this occasion, as the funeral cortege passed on in solid column, bearing with it the inanimate body of a once prominent personage.

The day, for a military or any out-door display, was most propitious; and its charming influence undoubtedly drew forth fuller ranks, on the part of the National Guard at least. The contrast in the weather, as compared with that endured on the occasion of the Farragut obsequies, was far more conducive to the health and tastes of the soldiery, and doubtless was far more appreciated by all concerned. The regiments of the National Guard, who long since offered their services as a portion of the escort, have for a month past been on the usual *qui vive*, and the handsome display made by their troops gave good evidence of their spirit and sympathy for the dead. The escort was under the command of Brigadier-General Ward, commanding First brigade, First division N. G., and the military ordered to be formed on Second avenue, fronting east—centre opposite entrance to vault—and the societies, in the same avenue, facing west. This the military did accordingly, the two companies of the First U. S. Artillery taking position on the west side of Second avenue, and fronting east, as directed, and were soon afterwards followed by the Seventh Infantry and other regiments of the National Guard escort. Yet, it was apparent, these orders had been issued without an investigation of the real location of the vault containing the remains, which was located on the west side of the avenue in the rear, a passage between two buildings leading to its entrance. General McDowell, on arrival, perceived the mistake, finding the troops, in following the orders, had formed with their backs to the vault instead of their fronts. He therefore immediately ordered a "change of base." Fortunately, however, the escort line had not quite completed its formation at the time of the discovery of the mistake; the change therefore occupied little time, and caused but little delay. At half-past ten the troops were all in line, and the casket containing the remains placed on a gun carriage of the First Artillery battery, U. S. Army, by a detachment of the Eighth U. S. Infantry. The carriage then took position, and soon after the escort wheeled in column in the following order:

Police.
Brigadier-General W. G. Ward, N. G. S. N. Y., commanding escort.
Seventy-first Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y.
Seventy-ninth Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y.
Ninth Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y.
Seventh Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y.
The two batteries of the First Artillery (E and H), which were in Fort Sumter with General Anderson.
Light Battery K, First Artillery.
(The Artillery under Major J. M. Brannan, First Artillery.)
Corpses,
Enveloped in the Fort Sumter flag, on an Artillery caisson, covered with flowers, with the members of the "Old Guard" on either side.
Carriages containing Pall Bearers, Family, and Officers of the Army and Navy.
Members of "Anderson Zouaves," in two platoons, and in citizens' dress.
Columbia Order Knight Templars, Commandery No. 1, in column of company.
Pacific Lodge, in column of twos.
Police.

The procession was under the direction of Assistant Adjutant-General Chauncey McKeever, U. S. Army, who acted as Marshal, and the line of march was up Second avenue to Eighth street, through to Broadway; up Broadway to Fourteenth street, thence to Fifth avenue and Thirty-fourth street to the North River.

The street along the route was crowded with spectators, and many residences displayed flags at half mast, and otherwise manifested their sympathy for the lamented soldier. We append a brief synopsis of the strength and appearance of the troops, etc.:

The funeral column was led by General Ward and staff, all in full uniform. First Lieutenant Gardner, First Artillery, U. S. Army, paraded on the staff of General Ward.

The Seventy-first Infantry, Colonel Rockafellar, paraded, in heavy marching order, ten commands, fourteen files, and never made a handsomer display.

The Seventy-ninth (battalion) Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Stetson, paraded six commands, ten files, and made a small but very fair appearance.

The Ninth Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Braine, in heavy marching order, did not come up to its former efforts, parading

ten commands of sixteen files. The variety and color of blankets did not add to the regiment's appearance; the company alignments were not as well as desired.

The Seventh Infantry, Colonel Clark, made a very handsome display, parading, like the Ninth and Seventy-first, in marching order, ten commands, having a frontage of eighteen files, with four files broken to the rear.

The two companies (E and H) of First Artillery paraded as infantry, twenty files, with four files broken to the rear, under command of Brevet Major-General John M. Brannan. The companies were commanded by Brevet Major and Captain William L. Haskin and Brevet Major and Captain F. E. Taylor, respectively. The companies looked exceedingly well, and attracted much attention by the fine soldierly bearing of the members.

The celebrated Light Battery K, under command of Brevet Captain and First Lieutenant Thomas Ward, fully sustained its reputation as one of the finest organizations in the Army. The men were in excellent trim, and the horses, as usual, in splendid condition. By the way, the late General Anderson was the first to introduce the light battery system, we learn, into the Army.

The "Old Guard," composed of veterans of the First division, were under command of Major McLean, and paraded forty members, in their attractive uniforms of white coats and blue trousers. The "Guard" had the post of honor, and carried themselves well.

The "Anderson Zouaves," late Sixty-second U. S. Volunteers, paraded two platoons of fourteen files, the members being in citizens' dress. The two Masonic societies followed, the whole being a very imposing display. The pall bearers rode in carriages, the gun-carriage bearing the casket being followed by four files of the Eighth U. S. Infantry as "carrying" party.

The mistake of the original formation seemed to have mixed matters considerably, the regimental columns being all right in front on the march instead of left, as prescribed. Few, however, observed this error or the mistake in the formation, except those most interested.

On arriving at the foot of Thirty-fourth street, the escort wheeled into line, the military presenting arms as the remains were dismounted and conducted to the steamer which was to convey them to West Point. They were received on the pier by Colonel Conrad, Second U. S. Infantry, in command of a detachment of U. S. Engineers, who conveyed them on board, soon after which the steamer sailed for its destination. There was no military ceremony at West Point.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICERS.—The election of late years of civilians utterly ignorant of the military art, and sometimes of damaged personal character, to high command in the National Guard, is an evil so great that it should be vigorously combated. The militia officer has long been a subject for the ridicule of those who have been bred to the profession of arms; and this, notwithstanding the fact that many of the most distinguished of our soldiers had their military schooling in the militia organizations of the various States. Some reason for this prejudice must exist, and it is manifestly in the fact that, in consequence of the prevalent elective system, men utterly unqualified by education, social position, or by a knowledge of military science, are and have been placed in the most responsible positions in our militia or National Guard. The experience of the late war apparently has done but little to check this evil—an experience dearly bought and abundantly illustrated by commissaries who were ignorant of the composition of a ration; by surgeons who, like Dr. Sangrado of happy memory, had but one remedy—not water—but amputation; and by clouds of colonels and captains whose tactical ability was of the break-ranks-march-and-fall-in-on-the-other-side-of-the-fence order! The days of brawn and muscle and mere unaided brute courage have departed—brains are now in the ascendant as the materials with which national disputes are decided, as well on the battle-field as in the council chamber.

In a country like our own, where neither the policy of our laws nor the spirit of our people will tolerate the maintenance of a large standing army, the militia or National Guard becomes the only bulwark between us and hostile aggression, while its services are in constant requisition for the preservation of the public peace in all large centres of population. It is the first available force that can confront an enemy, and it supplies officers to the volunteer troops which may be subsequently raised. In this latter connection it has been aptly termed "the West Point of the Volunteer service." Having these important functions, is it not of vital importance that those who aspire to instruct and direct this force should be in every way qualified to exercise the powers with which they are clothed by a commission? (Should they not be men whose place in the estimation of the community is assured, who are at least as well educated as the best of those they are to command?)

For the credit of the National Guard—for the honor of the great State of New York—let us have done with military imbecility—let us be rid of asses in lions' skins. No man should be allowed to wear epaulettes in the service of the State who is not at the very least thoroughly familiar with the elementary branches of an English education. The educational fitness of a candidate for a commission should be determined by an examination by the brigade boards as actually as that employed in ascertaining his familiarity with the tactics, and on both points the investigation should

be as thorough and vigorous as it is possible to make it. Let this system be carried out, and the ranks of our regiments will receive accessions from the most desirable class of our young men, many of whom are now naturally unwilling to enlist and risk being subject, even during a street parade, to the orders of men who are in every way their inferiors, and for whom they neither would nor could feel an atom of respect.

If we need an example of the good results arising from such a system, we have but to turn to the U. S. Marine Corps, the officers of which have always been selected from civil life, and subjected before being commissioned to an examination in the usual branches of a common school education. We find the gentlemen so appointed to compare favorably with the best of those who have entered the land service through the gates of West Point. There are many points in which the efficiency of the National Guard can only be increased by suitable legislation or the active interest of our non-military citizens, but in this one particular the matter is entirely in their own hands. They should bear in mind that "the Lord helps those who help themselves."

TWENTY-SECOND INFANTRY.—In our criticisms upon the drill, on the 22d of March, of the left wing of this regiment, which appeared in our last issue, we omitted to state that the wing was under the command of Major McGrath.

The Twenty-second assembled at the armory on Wednesday evening in fatigue uniform for battalion drill, and was equalized into eight commands of sixteen files each. The exercises opened with the ceremony of dress parade, which was only fairly performed. The adjutant gave the command "Guide posts" before the right company had been brought to a "support." In coming to the front and centre to report, the first sergeant of the left, centre company, on whom the other sergeants close, failed to take the correct position, and the adjutant therefore returned the sergeants to their posts, and caused them to report a second time. The regiment looked exceedingly well in line, the manual was excellent, and the men very steady, with a few exceptions. It was then formed into two lines, the right wing occupying the middle of the room, and the left wing in line in rear of the right and near the north side. The colors were of course on the left of the first line. In this position the ceremony of review was gone through, Lieutenant-Colonel Brown assuming command, and Colonel Porter acting as reviewing officer. The details of the review were well and correctly performed, but the rear companies lost great distance in the "passage" in "quick" time, but did better at the "double." We must object to and protest against the position in which the regiment was formed at the time of review; not the slightest authority for such formation can be found in any military work, and there was and is no necessity for adopting such method. It is true that the armory is not wide enough to form the regiment in a continuous line, but we see no serious objection to forming the right and left companies at right angles with the centre, and conducting the review in the usual manner, and thus retaining as near as possible all the distinctive characteristics of a review. The centre is undoubtedly the only position for the colors, opposite which the reviewing officer should take his position; whereas, in this instance, the reviewing officer faced the centre of the wings, and the colors were ignominiously kept out of sight on one side of the room, on the left of the right wing or first line. Another objection is, that after the two lines had broken into column by company to pass in review, the left wing could not step off until the right had passed its right flank; this too looked very bad, and, we believe, accounts in a measure for the lost distances to which we have already alluded. We could, if we had space, enumerate many other valid and serious objections to the plan. We were surprised to see Colonel Porter direct and countenance this innovation, more especially as the Twenty-second, under his leadership, plums itself, with a good deal of justice, upon being a strict follower of Upton; but this "review" was the most flagrant outrage upon Upton we have yet witnessed.

We trust that the plan will be discarded, although we should judge that it is the intention of Colonel Porter to attempt it again, he having practiced the regiment in the "movement" many times.

The movements which followed, consisted in marching in column of fours, company and division, line of battle by wing, formation of division, and double column, formation of square, and the deployments. Some of these movements were well and accurately performed, particularly the formation and reduction of square, and the marching in double line. Others were very poorly done. We noticed that when errors occurred they were caused solely by the ignorance and inefficiency of company officers. If we failed to comment upon this we should fail in our duty, for it is notorious that, as a rule, company officers throughout the National Guard do not make themselves masters of their duties in the school of the battalion, and as a natural result we have indifferent battalion drills inflicted upon us; have to witness good companies muddled up by bungling or wrong commands, and have to entertain the suspicion that a well executed movement is more the result of accident than design. The best field officers cannot counteract at a few drills the demoralization which attaches to the skirts of an incompetent company officer. We believe these remarks apply to the National Guard generally. The rank and file of the Twenty-second invariably do well their part, and we could but notice and commend their steadiness on this occasion.

The closing drill of the season, in full dress, with a promenade concert to follow, takes place on Wednesday next. Admission by ticket.

SEVENTH INFANTRY.—This regiment paraded in full uniform, with knapsacks and overcoats rolled thereon, on Wednesday, as a part of the funeral escort to the remains of Major-General Anderson. The regiment will parade in fatigue uniform (white belts) for battalion drill at Tompkins Square April 11 and 25. Assembly at 4:30 P. M. The resignation of Lieutenant-Colonel George T. Haws having been accepted and he having been honorably discharged, an election was held on Monday evening at the regimental armory to fill the vacancy, Brigadier-General Varian presiding. The number of votes cast was twenty-five, thirteen of which were received by Captain Ryder, of Company E, and twelve by Captain Arthur, of Company I. The election was quietly conducted, and the whole matter evidently "fixed" to a degree remarkable.

An election for so important a position as that of lieutenant-colonel in any regiment is productive of much discussion and excitement in the command particularly affected, and in the case of a regiment having so wide a reputation as that of the Seventh the excitement extends beyond the immediate circle of those interested. The National Guard, despite rival jealousies, has from time immemorial looked upon the Seventh regiment as its exemplar, watching its every action with an interest and appreciation most complimentary to any command. The regiment, we must confess, has rarely failed to deserve these praises and compliments, and has endeavored always to maintain a reputation worthy of them. We regret therefore that we cannot commend its course in the matter of this election to the imitation of other regiments, overlooking as it has done in the choice of a lieutenant-colonel the consideration of claims to promotion founded upon merit, soldierly ability, and seniority. We do not intend, in saying this, to reflect upon the officer chosen to fill the position vacated by the resignation of Lieutenant-Colonel Haws. His sixteen years of service entitle him to the recognition he has received, had there been sufficient reason for passing over the officer first in the line of promotion, Major George Moore Smith. The officer to whom we refer was advanced to the position he now holds on virtue of his merit, and we are disposed to think that he has failed of further advancement less because he was not a good soldier than because he was a poor politician. His first false step was in compromising himself with another candidate when he was elected to the position of major. At the time of that election he united his strength with another candidate for the vacant position to defeat a third candidate, having an understanding that he was to decline the office, after the compliment of an election, if the officer with whom he made the agreement developed sufficient strength to give him the right to ask it. On these conditions, it seems, Major Smith was elected, and, in accordance with the understanding, requested ten days to consider the question of occupying the position. Meantime he found the officer with whom he had made the agreement was less favorably considered by the officers of the regiment, and therefore accepted the position before the expiration of the prescribed time. This agreement between the two officers aforesaid soon became known, and was commented upon unfavorably, and, as results have since shown, proved fatal to Major Smith's further advancement.

But, whatever mistake Major Smith may have made at this time, it was not one reflecting in any degree on his personal character, his soldierly ability or his efficiency as an officer. It was at the worst a mere error of judgment in a matter affecting his personal interests alone, and is not sufficient excuse for the course of his fellow officers in thus passing him by to elect a junior officer to a position to which he was fairly entitled. In so doing they have been guilty of a worse error of judgment, and one injurious, not only to the Seventh regiment, but to the best interests of the National Guard, to which it stands as a model in so many respects. We not intend, in what we here say, to reflect in any measure on Lieutenant-Colonel Ryder, who is a young officer, ambitious, and capable, and will do himself and the regiment credit in his new position. While regretting the circumstances which have thrown so excellent an officer as Major Smith out of the line of promotion, we are glad to see that the regiment has had regard to experience and capability in its choice of a lieutenant-colonel.

Company A, Captain Allison, has long been noted for its strictness of discipline and soldierly qualities, and under his command has made rapid strides in perfecting its drill. Its members are also strong in their social instincts. On drill nights one can always spend a pleasant hour in the society of these members, and often enjoy a treat of music and witicism equal to some of our best amusement resorts. A large representation of this company on the evening of the 28th ult. made a descent upon the residence of one of its favorite and veteran members, Corporal H. G. Haeger, taking this gentleman somewhat "aback" by celebrating a wooden wedding in his honor. The delegation, under charge of "Monsieur" Terriott and "Professor" McMillan, rendezvoused at "Bryant's," and soon after, armed with brooms and equipped with wooden ware, "swept" their way up Broadway, creating no little amusement and excitement by their appearance. The little party reached its destination, and were hospitably received by the hostess, and then awaited the appearance of the famous "man on the right" or the corporal, who had been led away by an imperative

telegram received some time earlier. About 10 o'clock the corporal arrived and found to his infinite surprise his residence in charge of first company troops, who received him with all honor, drawn up in line in the rear of stacked brooms. He was then formally and facetiously addressed by "Monsieur" Terriott, and presented with a magnificent veteran pin, profusely studded with diamonds, the gift of his commander, and afterward in detail with wooden ware of a various character and description. A veteran "clothes pin," elaborately encased and gotten up, was also formally handed over to his care at the same time. The good natured and genial corporal was never more nonplussed than by these manifestations of regard, and even now, we opine, has not got over this surprise of his merry comrades. The evening was most enjoyable, the amusements characteristic of the "first" company, and the whole affair a pleasing tribute to a good soldier and comrade, as well as an indication of the perfect union of the company.

On Monday evening Company G, Captain Ely, gave its first annual dinner at the Metropolitan Hotel. The dinner was attended by a goodly representation of the members and ex-members of the company and by the officers of the regiment generally. The menu has as a whole seldom been equalled, and the military decorative feature of the table exceedingly pleasing. Captain Ely presided with characteristic dignity, and the number of toasts was unlimited. Speeches were made by Colonel Clark, Major Smith, Captain Ryder (lieutenant-colonel elect), Captains Ely and Kipp, Lieutenant Earle, and a number of other officers of the regiment.

SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.—Companies H, B, C, D, F, of this command, comprising the left wing, assemble in fatigue uniform for drill and instruction at the State Arsenal on Monday evening. Assembly at 8 P. M. This command paraded in full dress uniform, with knapsacks, overcoats rolled (white gloves), on Wednesday, as a portion of the escort to the remains of the late Major-General Robert Anderson, on their removal from the Second Avenue vaults to West Point. Company commanders are directed to see that their complement of Remington muskets is complete and in their musket racks, as the issue of the new Remington State arm will shortly take place. Colonel Rockafellar departs for Europe on the 13th inst. on business and for improvement of health. We wish him a pleasant voyage, safe return, and speedy restoration to health.

Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Vose was unfortunate enough to be one of those injured by the Conemaugh railroad accident which occurred recently, and was pretty badly hurt, suffering a contusion in the back between the spine and hip, wound in the head, and bruised generally. Lieutenant-Colonel Vose is still lame from the effects of his wounds, but is getting better rapidly, and even risked the parade on Wednesday.

TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.—A court-martial is ordered for the trial of all delinquents in this command. The court will convene at the armory, Brooklyn, on the 22d day of April, at 8 o'clock P. M. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen H. Farnham. Surgeon J. C. Goodridge, Jr., has resigned, to date from January 22, 1872. Sergeant S. B. Willey has been appointed right general guide, vice Bragg, resigned—rank March 25, 1872; and Sergeant A. C. Bunce left general guide, vice Willey, promoted—rank March 25, 1872. Charles Bell and John Liddle, Company K, have been expelled by a vote of the company and the approval of Colonel Rodney C. Ward.

TWENTY-EIGHTH (BATTALION) INFANTRY.—The several companies of this command will assemble in fatigue uniform for instruction and drill at the Kings county armory as follows: Right wing, Companies A, C, and G, April 8 and 29; left wing, Companies B, H, and I, April 15 and May 6. Roll call of companies at 8 o'clock P. M. The following officers are constituted a board of examination for non-commissioned officers: Major Anthony Wills, Captains Samuel Wandell and Charles T. Schmitt. The sessions of the board will convene on the first Thursday of each month. The colonel commanding calls the attention of the battalion to the fact that the distant location of four companies of the former Twenty-eighth regiment has worked detrimentally to the prosperity and military discipline which this and every military organization should attain. A final separation of these companies has been effected, and consequently a source of irritation and retrogradation abated. It is now sincerely desired that the officers and men of this battalion work with increased zeal and redoubled effort to raise this command to its former position as a regiment.

THIRTY-SECOND INFANTRY.—This command, Colonel Roehr, gave a most successful reception at its armory, Brooklyn, E. D., on Monday evening. The spacious armory was filled to repletion by the many friends of the regiment, and the interior of the building pleasingly decorated with flags and other military insignia, the whole having a very pleasing effect, and exhibiting much taste on the part of the decorators. The assemblage was select, and the number of elegant toilets unlimited. The reception committee, under its chairman, Colonel Roehr, was indefatigable, and the whole affair most happy in its general conception. Our German friends have a generous method of conducting these social reunions, and the absence of undue formality therefore frequently makes them more enjoyable to participants. There are, however, some few of more "native" instincts who would object to these informalities, when they extend to the wearing of head coverings amid the excitements of the dregs, and the use of

the weed in the sacred presence of the ladies. Still it is not well to reflect upon our friends of the Thirty-second, especially when one of its officers (Major Karcher) seems so carried away with the excitements of the dance that he can find no other recourse but metrical lines to quiet his nerves or express his pleasures.

The gallant Thirty-second passed a first rate inspection on last Monday evening at its annual reception; They mustered a select party who manifested delight, And at reveille experienced a well-spent night. The sweet strains discoursed by the regimental band Would inspire even Terpsichore—for none could withstand The well-timed harmony of the waltz and reel— For they danced till past midnight with vigor and zeal.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—Some months since, the Thirty first brigade, Eighth division, established in Buffalo, N. Y., a general headquarters similar to that of the Second division, Brooklyn, for the transaction of all military business appertaining to the various organizations of which it is formed. The arrangement is admirable, and cannot help but aid greatly the officers of the brigade, as well as conduce largely to its interests as a military command. In a "staff circular" issued to the brigade at the time, the brigade commander, Brigadier-General Wm. J. Rogers, says "that it is a source of congratulation to all officers of the staff that the headquarters of this brigade are now established where they may meet and converse on subjects of a military character, and he hopes that no opportunity will be allowed to pass whereby they may improve themselves in military science, which to us is one of so much interest. A well organized, disciplined, and efficient staff has in its power to do good and promote the interest of the service, while an inefficient staff is worse than none. Therefore let us resolve that though our command is small, we will have the best staff in the State, and that by our energy, attention to duty, and an earnest desire to promote the National Guard, we will make the Thirty-first brigade the best in the State of New York." In connection with these headquarters are other rooms handsomely fitted up for club purposes, although entirely distinct from the business departments of the military. Here, within the precincts of the National Guard Club of Buffalo, members of the service from all parts of the State are welcome at all times.....Private Edward W. Coles, Company H, has been appointed sergeant in the Twenty-second Infantry, and detailed for duty as color-bearer, vice Bertram, reduced to the ranks. The commissioned officers of the regiment assembled at the armory, in citizens' dress, on Monday evening, for theoretical instruction. The following members of the Twenty-second have been duly expelled from their respective companies for habitual neglect of duty and non-payment of dues and fines, and dishonorably dismissed from the regiment, viz.: Private Julius A. Spengeman, Company A; Privates James R. Adams, Edward T. Bastianelli, John J. Carolin, Frank M. Evans, Edward H. Fisher, Benjamin F. Gatens, Isaac B. Leggett, Samuel M. Hankins, and Cassius Morey, Company B; Privates Joseph D. Lawrence and Edward McGill, Company D; Privates J. N. Briggs, S. E. Briggs, S. N. Gimbrede, J. Cornelius, and R. C. Schick, Company F; and Privates Benjamin L. Woodruff, George M. Schaeffer, Jas. P. Conner, George N. Worth, and W. M. Van Leer, Company H.....The New York Board of Aldermen on Tuesday last voted that the Board of Apportionment be requested to appropriate \$75,000 on those buildings owned by the city and county of New York as armories and drill rooms. It was also moved that the Corporation Council be directed to inquire into and report to this Board at their next meeting, and the particulars of every lease executed to the county for premises set aside for armories and drill rooms, with his opinion of the legality of each one, and that he report particularly on the liability of the county for necessary repairs, and, if possible, to communicate the names of the owners of the premises, as well as those of the lessees.....We hear loud complaints regarding the continued absence of the new major of the Forty-seventh Infantry, who, it is stated, has visited the armory but three times since his election, which occurred some six weeks since—once on the evening of the election, and on two other occasions, one of which was of a festive character. This will not do in the Forty-seventh, especially when an officer is president of a regimental court. The Forty-seventh, by the way, hold its first drill in street firing at the armory on Monday evening.....We are authorized to state by the secretary of the Fifty-fifth's Board of Officers that the announcement made in a Sunday print two weeks since relative to the late esteemed commander, Colonel Allen, is wholly untrue, and without the least foundation.....The Eighth Infantry took possession of its new armory in Twenty-third street on Monday evening. It is over Ingersoll's new furniture warehouse, and a perfect palace as compared with its former quarters, the old, dilapidated Centre Market. We shall refer to this armory more fully another time. By the way, the "Old (S) Centre" has now been almost entirely vacated, the Seventy-first, the Sixth, and now the Eighth deserting the field like the rats of a sinking vessel.....Colonel Moller, of the Governor's staff, represented the State Department and Governor on the occasion of the Anderson obsequies.....Much of interest has been crowded out of this issue.....It cannot be regarded as premature for us to announce that the officer to whom the command of the Ninth Infantry has been tendered is Major George Moore Smith of the Seventh. We earnestly hope that the Ninth will succeed in securing so valuable an officer. If it does it will be commanded by one of the very ablest officers of the National Guard, and one, too, who will spare no effort to make his regiment take and hold the leading position among the city organizations, which the Ninth may well aspire to do under the command of Major Smith.....The Twelfth hold full dress battalion drills at the State Arsenal April 19 and 22.

FOREIGN MILITARY AND NAVAL ITEMS.

MARSHAL McMAHON has testified that he alone was responsible for the movements of the army after it left Chalons and prior to Sedan, and that the Emperor Napoleon was in no way responsible for its disaster. This testimony will somewhat clear Napoleon's reputation, but it will injure the military standing of McMahon.

A NUMBER of workmen in the laboratory at Woolwich Arsenal, are specially employed in the manufacture of "fish-torpedoes," machines of iron, in shape somewhat like a fish, about 5 feet long and 1 foot in thickness, each containing a little engine of compressed air capable of propelling the torpedo a considerable distance under water.

THE Emperor has appointed General von Lutskooski, president of the Military Prisons Commission, preliminary to a general reform of military prisons to be conducted under that general's supervision. The civil prisons of the German empire are likewise to undergo a general reform, for which purpose a commission of inquiry has been newly appointed under Privy Councillor Count Golohoub.

IT is now announced in reference to the reopening of Sebastopol as a military harbor that barracks, arsenals, and docks for repairing men-of-war are to be constructed there, and all the bays and inlets of the Chersonese are to be protected by forts, but few, if any, inland fortifications are to be erected on the peninsula. The railway to Sebastopol will be finished in about a year.

GRAND Duke Nicholas has, in his capacity as Commander of the Guards, ordered the establishment of a gymnastic training detachment to be formed by one man of each battalion garrisoned in or within reach of St. Petersburg. The object of the detachment is to train efficient gymnastic masters to be distributed gradually over the whole army, and introduce generally the Prussian practice of military gymnastics, which is considered highly useful. The detachment will begin its course in October.

THE twenty-two dotations awarded to German generals and statesmen who distinguished themselves in the late war have been distributed in the following manner: 300,000 thalers each to Prince Frederick Charles, Count Moltke, Count Roon and General von Manteuffel; 200,000 thalers each to Minister von Delbreich, General von Werder and some others; 150,000 to the King of Bavaria for redistribution among Bavarian officers; 100,000 thalers each to Generals von Stosch, von Frausecky, von Kirchbuer, von Kamake and others, and to the widow of the deceased General von Hindersin.

CAPTAIN M. Tweedie, of the British service has addressed a suggestion to the Royal Artillery Institution for iron-plating a cruising ship. Having got to the limit of iron-plating on the outside of a ship, and yet having a gun able to pierce it, he proposes to put the armor of cruising ships inside. His plan is to spring an arch or dome of iron inboard from the sides of the ship below the water line, the top of the dome, rising a little above the surface, covering in the engines, the lower deck and store rooms being divided into a series of water-tight compartments. This, he contends, would give additional strength to the ship, and, however much her hull might be knocked about, she could not sink, unless the arch were penetrated, which, owing to its shape, would be nearly impossible.

THE following is the system by which an average of at least \$500 a year is collected from each regiment in the British army, in the shape of fines for drunkenness. For a third offence within nine months commanding officers may inflict a fine of 2s. 6d.; within six months, 5s.; and within three months, 7s. 6d.; every additional act of drunkenness within twelve months counting for an additional 2s. 6d. The fines being subject to reduction in proportion to the length of time elapsing will, it is hoped, encourage abstinence. The fines are to be paid by stoppages of not less than 3d. a day. When a soldier has been clear of drunkenness or an equivalent act of absence for twelve months, his next subsequent act of drunkenness is to be treated as a first offence; but a repetition of the act will involve a fine according to scale. The list of fines is to be placed in every barrack-room.

In a recent lecture at Aldershot, Colonel Cheaney described a visit to the chief of the staff of one of the most noted Prussian generals. He found him skilled in the theory of his profession, master of every detail of every arm over which he had to watch, and yet, though responsible to his chief for the working of an army corps in its full strength, quartered in a politically hostile land without martial law, and with duties that would oblige him to communicate officially not only with the heads of departments in the corps itself, but with numerous French and German civilians, he had but three letters on his table to answer and two to look over, and could answer all his visitor's questions with the most perfect lucidity and fullness, and without making any show of a wish, if he entertained it, to hurry his guest away. The reason was that though he really controlled the motions of 35,000 men, decentralization had been so completely attained that all unimportant details were attended to, without any reference to him, by the subordinate officers. Here was the secret of the few mistakes made by the Prussian staff during the war. They had leisure to consider properly their own specific duties.

PATTERNS of shells, both shrapnel and common, have been decided on for use with the 16-pounder muzzle-loading rifled guns of the British service, 3.6 inches bore, for use both for field and boat services. The shrapnel shell will be charged with hard bullets of lead and antimony, 68 of 18 to the pound, and 56 of 14 to the pound—total, 119; the powder charge to burst the shell is 1½ ounces of pistol powder; the weight of the shell complete, 16 lbs. 5 ounces; length, 10 inches. The common shell will be charged with 8 lbs. of large-grain shell powder; its weight filled 15 lbs. 13 ounces; length, 10 inches. Patterns of case shot have been decided on

for the undermentioned wrought-iron rifled muzzle-loading guns; iron shot, cast in sand, 8 ounces each, being common for each nature of case—10-inch 400 pounder gun, case filled with 139 shot; 8-inch 180 pounder gun, case filled with 75 shot; 7-inch 115 pounder gun, case filled with 70 shot; 64-pounder gun, case filled with 49 shot.

THE *Homeward Mail*, a China paper, says that the Empire of Germany has entered upon the organization of the Japanese army. Among the passengers of a recent Peninsular and Oriental steamer were seven officers of the Prussian army journeying to Japan for the purpose. This little band of Moltke's disciples, says a *Madras contemporary*, is under the charge of Herr Keppen, a gentleman who has resided for some time in Japan, and who now holds the rank of major in the Japanese army. The other officers represent every branch of the Prussian service—artillery, engineering, infantry, cavalry, and medical. These officers have been engaged for a period of five years, and it is intended that they shall prepare an army of 15,000 men for the Japanese Government, with the possibility, of course, of increasing that number should it be found that the Prussian military system works satisfactorily. Prussian cannon and Prussian rifles are to be imported for the use of the reorganized army; Major Keppen has taken a specimen of the latter weapon with him to Japan. It is a new kind of breech-loader, not more than four feet long, and of a calibre suitable to men of Oriental physique. In loading, the barrel is not temporarily disjointed from the stock, as in the ordinary breech-loader; but the operation is performed by drawing back a kind of sliding bolt, very similar to the bolt of a door, and inserting the cartridge in the cavity from which the bolt is drawn. The loading, indeed, is a most simple process, and can be performed with extraordinary rapidity. A sword bayonet, about two feet long, may be attached to the muzzle, and certainly does not make the weapon less formidable. The back of the bayonet is jagged like a saw, and is intended to be used as such in cutting wood, either simply for fuel or for offensive objects. When it is added that the range of this rifle is equal to that of the chassepot, it is tolerably clear that the Japanese soldiers will one of these days be armed with a weapon which no European power will care to despise.

THE Berlin correspondent of the *Breslau (Silesia) Gazette*, who is generally exceedingly well informed as to what is going on at the Prussian court, says in his latest letter to that paper: "The Catholics and Particularists are overjoyed because of the curious debate in the Senate of the United States concerning the sales of muskets and cartridges by the American War Department to agents of the French Government during the late war. For some reason or other Prince Bismarck deemed it prudent not to make any remonstrance at the time when the transactions took place, although he might have caused the Government of the United States some trouble if he had then possessed the information which Senators Sumner and Schurz have now laid before the Senate at Washington. Bismarck declares now that the matter was really of no consequence whatever, and his organs here have published soothing articles on the subject. His Majesty, the Emperor, however, I am informed by trustworthy parties, does not look at the matter altogether in the same light as his Chancellor, and he is reported to have read the stenographic report of the proceedings in the American Senate with mingled feelings of surprise and indignation. For the last two days this affair has formed the chief topic of conversation in court circles, and those members of the court cliques who pray day and night for the downfall of Prince Bismarck have been rubbing their hands in high glee, for they assert that His Majesty will not allow this important question to take altogether the course which the Chancellor desires it to take. The same persons predict also very confidently that, at the opening of the next session of the German Parliament, an interpellation on the subject coupled with a vote of censure of Bismarck's conduct in regard to the matter will be moved by the leaders of the Opposition. The question, I am told, would probably have assumed more serious proportions before this, so far as the Emperor William is concerned, but for the singular dislike which the latter entertains toward Mr. Carl Schurz, who seems to be prime mover in the affair, although Senator Sumner, a well known enemy of Germany, is nominally the author of the motion in the American Senate."

THE NAVAL WEAPON OF THE FUTURE.

To the Editor of the *London Times*.

SIR: It may interest your readers to know that the Americans have commenced the reconstruction of their navy, in doing which they seem fully alive to the fact that torpedoes will in all probability become the principal and main naval weapon of the future, whether used offensively or defensively, whether by vessels designed for cruising or for harbor defence. This fact cannot too forcibly be borne in mind by us, who confidently rely on heavy guns and armored vessels designed for an artillery encounter, and not constructed so as best to manipulate and fight the torpedo. Naval authorities in the United States appear unanimously to hold the opinion that the torpedo will be the chief naval weapon of the future. Not only is it an opinion, but it is being acted upon with great energy.

A school of "torpedoing" has been formed at Newport, Rhode Island, where a number of naval officers are instructed in the practical employment of torpedoes in suitable and purpose-built vessels. As many as twenty go through the class at a time, when they enter into all details of torpedoing, theoretically and practically, just as the advanced class of artillery officers at Shoeburyness enter into the details appertaining to gunnery. The course lasts several months, and the officers have the great advantage of seeing and taking part in the numerous torpedo experiments which are continually going on there during the mild weather. So much for education.

Each vessel of the United States Navy now carries, besides a number of towing torpedoes, an arrangement

whereby a torpedo containing a little over 100 pounds of gunpowder can be boomed out some twenty-four feet in front of the cut-water. The ironclad monitors, about thirty in all, are fitted with beams for torpedoes to be worked from their decks, and it is considered that they will thus become very formidable vessels for harbor defence, where, from the narrowness of a channel and other reasons, speed is not of prime importance. Twelve powerful tugs, which were built during the late war, are having tubular outriggers fitted in their forecastles. This arrangement consists essentially of a tube with suitable valves, through which is thrust another and longer cast-iron tube, carrying the torpedo, which can pass through the first tube on to its outer extremity. The whole apparatus is entirely hidden from the view of an enemy, who cannot, therefore, from the appearance of the vessel, divine her dangerous character. A minute description of these tubular outriggers will be sent to the proper authorities. It is asserted that four torpedoes can be thrust out and fired per minute in this way. These tugs are only intended for use during the night, as their engines and boilers are much exposed, and a single shot would be almost certain to place them *hors de combat*. These, as well as the other trigger torpedoes, are fired by an electrical fuse and small frictional machine.

The United States Government are so well satisfied with the torpedo experiments and their results that three special torpedo vessels have quite recently been commenced—one at the Boston Navy-yard, one at New York, and the third in one of the Southern Navy-yards. The Boston torpedo vessel is to have a length of 175 feet, beam thirty-five feet, and freeboard of eight or nine feet; she is to be protected to a certain extent with iron, and great stress is laid on her speed, which it is hoped will exceed sixteen knots. I will not apologize for trespassing on your space, etc., for the simple reason that no more important subject can be discussed at the present time than the probable effect that the practical application of torpedoes to sea-going vessels of high speed may have on the naval supremacy of Great Britain.

JOHN T. BUCKNILL, R. E.

PORTLAND, ME., February 26.

THE following subscriptions to the fund for a monument to Major-General George H. Thomas are reported by General Opdycke:

Peake, Opdycke & Co.....	\$100	Hoyt, Spragues & Co.....	\$50
Low, Harriman & Co.....	50	Collins, Whitin & Co.....	50
J. C. Howe & Co.....	50	Rhodes & Grosvenor.....	50
Chase, Stewart & Co.....	50	Faulkner, Page & Co.....	50
Denny, Poor & Co.....	50	J. S. & E. Wright & Co.....	50
W. C. Langley & Co.....	50	Woodward, Baldwin & Co.....	50
Woodward, Lawrence & Co.....	50	Campbell & Elliott.....	50
Geo. C. Richardson & Co.....	50	Anthony & Hall.....	50
Whittemore, Peet, Post & Co.....	50		
Henry Tiffany & Co.....	50	Total.....	\$1,000
Almy & Co.....	50		

By General Hooker:

From Gen. F. H. Townsend.....	\$100	By Gen. J. M. Brannan.....	\$95
From Gen. W. H. Siddell.....	100		
By Col. F. B. Stetson.....	100	Total.....	\$1,195

Further contributions will be published as reported by the committee. Subscriptions may be sent to Colonel Samuel B. Lawrence, treasurer, 29 Mercer street, New York.

Major-General John M. Oliver, who served under General Sherman during the war, died in Washington on Saturday, March 30. His remains will be taken to Penn Yan, N. Y., for interment.

FACTS FOR THE LADIES.—Mrs. J. P. Millard, New Hamburg, N. Y., has used her Wheeler & Wilson Lock-Stitch Machine since June, 1863, doing the family sewing for six persons, and making the bedding for a steamboat, without a cent for repairs; it now works as well as when first used. See the new Improvements and Wood's Lock-Stitch Ripper.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

MOULTON—PARKER.—In Dover, N. H., by the Rev. James Crehore, Captain H. Moulton, (late U. S. Army), to Miss Sarah Parker, both of Saco, Me. (No cards.)

DIED.

STINSON.—In New York, on December 21, 1871, Master HERBERT C. STINSON.

The class of 1868, and especially his shipmates on the *Franklin* in 1819, will hear of this death with especial regret. Classmates in all parts of the world, with warm hearts and hushed voices, will say, "Poor old Stinson, what a good fellow he was."

WRIGHT.—In this city, on Friday, March 22, EDWARD BRADFORD WRIGHT, only son of General H. G. and Louisa M. Wright, aged 23 years and 3 months.

LEIB.—At Camp Grant, A. T., February 25, 1872, JENNIE LARAMEE, daughter of Captain E. H. and Ellen L. Leib, aged 5 months and 7 days.

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Even more favorable terms may be made, where two or more sisters simultaneously attend the school. For further particulars, apply for the Prospectus of the Academy.

REFERENCES, BY SPECIAL AGREEMENT,

General Sherman, U. S. Army, and lady, Washington, D. C.; Admiral David D. Porter, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.; Major-General G. G. Meade, U. S. Army, Philadelphia; General Hartman Bache, U. S. Army, Philadelphia; Brigadier-General I. N. Palmer, U. S. Army, Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. P. Graham, U. S. Army, San Francisco, Cal.; Brigadier-General Wm. M. Graham, U. S. Army, Fort Hamilton, N. Y.; Mrs. Admiral Dahlgren, Washington, D. C.

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